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THE BEQUEST OF
HARRIET J. BRADBURY
OF BOSTON

June 26, 1930

C. W. Oakes, Esq
with compliments of
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THE ORIGINAL

MOTHER GOOSE'S MELODY,

AS FIRST ISSUED BY

JOHN NEWBERY, OF LONDON,

ABOUT A. D., 1760.

Reproduced in *fac-simile* from the edition as reprinted by

ISAIAH THOMAS, OF WORCESTER, MASS.

ABOUT A. D., 1785,

WITH INTRODUCTORY NOTES BY

WILLIAM H. WHITMORE.



ALBANY:
JOEL MUNSELL'S SONS.
1889.

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P R E F A C E .

MOTHER GOOSE'S MELODY.

FEW books in the English language have had so great and persistent circulation as the collection of Nursery Rhymes known as Mother Goose's Melody. In presenting a reprint of the earliest known edition, some bibliographical notes may be in place.

According to my present knowledge, I feel sure that the original name is merely a translation from the French ; that the collection was first made for and by John Newbery, of London, about A. D. 1760 ; and that the great popularity of the book is due to the Boston editions of Munroe & Francis, A. D. 1824-1860.

First, as to the name. Writing at the great disadvantage of locality, on this side of the Atlantic, in regard to English books, I can only say that I have found no early mention of Mother Goose as an English personage. She does not appear to be a character known before the seventeenth century ; and with due humility, I venture to suggest that such personifications of animals seem to be foreign to English modes.

* * *

I desire to dismiss, entirely, the idea that Mother Goose was a name which originated in Boston, Mass. In 1870, the late William A. Wheeler edited for Hurd & Houghton a beautiful edition of these melodies, and then claimed to identify Mother Goose with Elizabeth Goose, widow of one Isaac Vergoose or Goose, and mother-in-law of Thomas Fleet, a well-known Boston printer, who came here in 1712, and died in 1753. He married in 1715, and is said to have printed, in 1719, the first collection of Mother Goose's Melodies.

It is true that Fleet's wife was of the Vergoose family, and that the name was often contracted to Goose. The rest of the story depends entirely upon

the unsupported statement made by the late John Fleet Eliot (a descendant of the printer), that in 1856 the late Edward A. Crowninshield, of Boston, said that he had seen a broadside of Fleet's edition in the library of the American Antiquarian Society. Repeated searches at Worcester have failed to bring to light this supposed copy, and no record of it appears on any catalogue there. No other copy has ever been discovered elsewhere, and it seems reasonable to suppose that Mr. Eliot misunderstood the remarks made to him.

Until such an example shall be found, it is useless to repeat this story, and I shall waste no more time upon it; referring the inquirer to the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register* for 1873, pp. 144 and 311, and the *Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society*, October, 1888, pp. 406-410. If there had been an edition printed in Boston in 1719, we can safely say that Benjamin Franklin would have had a copy. Yet in the recent reprints of his Prefaces, Proverbs and Poems, as contained in the Poor Richard Almanacs (see Knickerbocker Nuggets, New York, 1890), we find nothing that suggests a single one of these Melodies or any of the characters therein. It seems to be simply impossible, on reading Franklin's annotations in these Almanacs, to believe that he had ever read Mother Goose and yet refrained from quoting or imitating them. It is, moreover, a very doubtful point, whether in 1719 a Boston printer would have been allowed to publish such trivial rhymes. Boston children at that date were fed on Gospel food, and it seems extremely improbable that an edition could have been sold.

* * *

But, on the other hand, the equivalent of Mother Goose is certainly of considerable antiquity in the French language. Its great popularity dates back to 1697, when Charles Perrault published the Nursery Tales entitled "Histoires ou Contes du Temps Passé, avec des Moralités." On the frontispiece is an old woman spinning and telling tales to a man, a girl, a little boy and a cat. On a placard is written

"CONTES
DE MA
MERE
LOYE."

These particulars I copy from the edition of Perrault, edited by Andrew Lang, Oxford, 1888, p. xxvii.

There seems to be no doubt that "Contes de ma mère l'Oye," or Tales of Mother Goose," was a popular synonym for fairy stories.

Lang (p. xxiv) says, "the term occurs in Loret's *La Muse Historique* (lettre v, 11 Juin, 1650),

' Mais le cher motif de leur joye,
Comme un conte de la Mère Oye,
Se trouvant fabuleux et faux,
Ils deviendront tous-bien pénauts.' "

Deulin (p. 10) speaking of that period quotes a remark that "the tales of Miletus are so puerile that they are sufficiently honored by comparison with our tales of ' *Peau d' Ane* ' or ' *Mère l' Oye* .'"

" *Peau d' Ane* " was then the typical story (with which infants were hushed to sleep), and such were indifferently styled by either name.

Other examples can be found, and some writers connect the legend of Mother Goose with Queen Goose-foot (Reine Pédauce), said to be the mother of Charlemagne. At all events it is as clear that she belongs to French folk-lore, as that she is not to be found in English tradition.

* * *

Very strangely I am unable to state when Perrault's book was first translated into English. In the London *Athenæum*, for 1887, I note an inquiry for the English edition of 1719, but no copy was reported. Lang says (Perrault's Tales, p. xxxiv), "An English version, translated by Mr. Samber, printed for J. Pote, was advertised, Mr. Austin Dobson tells me, in the *Monthly Chronicle*, March 1729." In 1745 the Tales were printed at the Hague, with an English translation. (Ibid)

Samber's edition, of 1729, seems to be verified as probably the first, by the following fact: I have a copy of a book entitled "Tales of Passed Times, by Mother Goose, With Morals, written in French by M. Perrault, and Englished by R. S., Gent. To which is added a new one, viz.: The Discreet Princess. The Seventh Edition, Corrected, and Adorned with fine Cuts. New York: Printed for J. Rivington, Bookseller and Stationer, No. 56 Pearl-street, 1795. 12 mo. pp. 227."

It contains the English and French versions on opposite pages, but the "fine cuts" are not to be seen. The translator, R. S., is undoubtedly Robert Samber, who is recorded in Allibone as translating a work from the French in 1719.

We may also presume that the reprint is from the seventh or sixth English

edition, as I know of no earlier American issues. Pp. 151-227 are covered by "The Discreet Princess," whereof the French title-page says, "Imprimé l'an MDCCXCV," and the English "Printed in the year MDCCCLXIV." The French is dedicated to the Comtesse de Murat; the English, to the right honorable, the Lady Mary Montagu, daughter of John, Duke of Montagu. As this peer died in 1749, I suspect an error in the date of publication.*

Until, however, more is known of the bibliography of this volume, I think we must accept the following facts as to the name: That Mother Goose was a French character, originally, and that her Tales were first published in 1696 and 1697, by Perrault; that in 1729 their fame reached England, and they were translated by Robert Samber; when, for the first time, she was introduced to English readers.

* * *

So much for Mother Goose's prose "Tales," which comprised Little Red-Riding-Hood, The Fairy (the sisters who drop diamonds and toads, respectively, from their mouths), Blue-Beard, The Sleeping Beauty, Puffs in Boots, Cinderella, Riquet with the Tuft, and Little Thumb; eight stories in all.

We have now to consider her "Melody." Here we are brought at once to John Newbery, the famous publisher, of St. Paul's Churchyard, London, whose Life, under the title of "A Bookseller of the Last Century," has been charmingly told by Charles Welsh (London, Griffith, Farran, Okeden & Welsh, 1885). Newbery was the first English publisher to prepare little story-books for children, and his success is amply shown in the notices of his contemporaries and successors. In 1765 he published *The History of Little Goody Two-Shoes* (reprinted in fac simile by Charles Welsh, in 1882), a story very generally ascribed to Oliver Goldsmith. At all events Goldsmith was a constant writer for Newbery from 1762 to 1767, when the latter died; and some of this literary work was undoubtedly for the children's books.

* Lang says, p. xxvi, "by some unexplained accident a story of Mademoiselle L'Heritier's '*L'Adroite Princessesse*,' slipped into editions of Perrault's *Contes*, in 1721, if not earlier, and holds its place, even now. "The author was Mlle. L'Heritier de Villaudon, a relation of Perrault's." She printed her volume in 1696. Charles Deulin (*Les Contes de Ma Mère L'Oye*, avant Perrault, Paris, 1878), says, p. 38, that *Finette, ou l'Adroite Princessesse*, was long attributed to Perrault, though now restored to the right owner; that it was dedicated to the Comtesse de Murat, and (p. 21) that it appeared in the same year as Perrault's "*La Belle au Bois Dormant*," which latter was printed first, in 1696, in Moetjen's *Receuil*, vol. v, printed at The Hague.

It is a matter of doubt whether the real collector of these Tales was not Charles Perrault's son, and that the father merely revised them and added the poetry.

In Mr. Welsh's careful list of Newbery's publications, we find mention of "Mother Goose's Tales." He says: "The seventh edition was printed May 16th, 1777, and between that date and March, 1779, Carnan & Newbery took 1710 out of the 3,000 copies printed by Collins, of Salisbury. It consisted of four-and-a half sheets, long primer. Three thousand copies cost £ 18 13. 6. The eighth issued September 4, 1780."

It is impossible at present to learn when Newbery first issued the Tales, or whether the seven editions were those printed by him or were numbered from the first English issue. It is evident, however, that we have brought together the title, "Mother Goose," and the publisher, Newbery.

* * *

December 28, 1780, Thomas Carnan entered for copyright, "Mother Goose's Melody, or, Sonnets for the Cradle, etc.," giving the full title as printed in the list in our American reprint. Carnan was the stepson of John Newbery, and succeeded to the business, in partnership with Francis Newbery, nephew of John. Francis died in 1780, but the firm continued some two years. Mr. Welsh kindly informs me that he thinks it probable that 1780, the date of the copyright, was not necessarily that of the first issue of the book, but rather that the copyright was taken out in connection with the winding-up of the copartnership, on Francis Newbery's death.

So far as we now know, no publisher, except Newbery, was using the title of "Mother Goose," from 1760 to 1780; the prose Tales had evidently been a success; and, to quote Mr. Welsh's opinion, as that of a most competent judge, "it is quite in accordance with Newbery's practice to have utilized it for his Melodies for the Nursery."

If, as seems most probable, the first edition of "Mother Goose's Melody" was issued prior to John Newbery's death, in 1767, there is an interesting question as to who prepared the collection for the press. The rhymes are avowedly the favorites of the nursery, but the preface and the foot-notes are an evident burlesque upon more pretentious works. The first and most natural conclusion is that we may trace therein the hand of Goldsmith, an opinion held by Mr. Welsh. The probability, or even possibility, of this idea, would give an added interest to this collection.

Forster, in his Life of Goldsmith, gives proof that Goldsmith was very fond of children and was familiar with nursery rhymes and games. Thus he writes (Vol. II, p. 71), that Miss Hawkins says: "I little thought what I should have to boast, when Goldsmith taught me to play *Jack and Jill*, by two bits of paper on his fingers."

But the most curious bit of evidence is the following from Vol. II, p. 122:

January 29, 1768, Goldsmith's play of the "Good-natured Man" was produced. He went to dine with his friends after it. "Nay, to impress his friends still more forcibly with an idea of his magnanimity, he even sung his favorite song, which he never consented to sing but on special occasions, about *An old Woman tossed in a Blanket seventeen times as high as the Moon*, and was altogether very noisy and loud."

Our readers will find this identical "favorite song" in the preface to Newbery's "Mother Goose's Melody," p. 7, dragged in without any excuse, but evidently because it was familiar to the writer. This coincidence is certainly of some force.

Newbery and Carnan did not succeed in keeping a monopoly of these Rhymes. In the *American Antiquarian Society's Proceedings* for 1888, I found a statement that in the Bodleian Library at Oxford, there were two copies of Mother Goose, printed about A. D. 1700. I am informed by Mr. Allnutt that this is entirely wrong. One copy is on paper which has the water mark of 1803, and the other has the imprint "London, Printed and Sold by John Marshall, No. 4, Aldermay Church-Yard, Bow-Lane, and No. 17 Queen Street, Cheapside. Price Three-Pence, Bound and Gilt."

This John Marshall, he adds, was a contemporary and rival of Carnan, and published children's books during the latter half of the 18th century and beginning of the present. "The contents are identical with yours, but some of the pieces toward the end are somewhat differently arranged. The cuts are very similar with the addition of a frontispiece representing a family group at lessons. There are 92 pages, followed by a list of children's books sold by John Marshall."

Not improbably it was some such piracy as this which made Carnan copyright his book in December, 1780, as already noted.

It may be mentioned here, however, that with the dissolution of the Newbery firm, and with the change in the taste for children's books, at the beginning of the present century, the English chain of evidence is broken, happily to be restored in this country, as will be shown. Mother Goose's Melodies are again to be found in English nurseries, but in some instances, at least, they are reprinted from American exemplars.

* * *

In 1842 the late James O. Halliwell edited for the Percy Society, "The Nursery Rhymes of England, Collected principally from Oral Tradition." In his preface, he writes, "these traditional nonsense-scrap have come

down to us in such numbers, that in the short space of three years the editor of the present volume had collected considerably more than a thousand. A selection is here presented to the reader. . . . I may here also take the opportunity of stating, that it was originally my intention to have introduced, also, a collection of merriments, upon which many of these rhymes are founded, but the project was over-ruled by a gentleman who gave it as his opinion, that the Society would, by their publication, be involved in an awkward question of copyright. I was not previously aware that 'Goody-Two-Shoes,' and romances of this kind were regarded so jealously by the trade."

He adds: "I am in possession of a curious and clever satirical pamphlet, entitled, 'Infant Institutes,' 8vo, London, 1797, to which I am indebted for some interesting scraps."

Leaving Halliwell for the moment, with the remark that he does not mention Joseph Ritson's "Gammer Gurton's Garland," of 1810, I will take up the "Infant Institutes."

In *Notes and Queries* for June, 1875 (5th S. iii: 441), the late learned musician, Prof. Edward F. Rimbault, described an octavo pamphlet of 69 pages, entitled, "Infant Institutes, part the first, or, a Nurserical Essay on the Poetry, Lyric and Allegorical, of the Earliest Ages, &c. London: printed for and sold by F. & C. Rivingtons, St. Paul's Churchyard, 1797." It is ascribed to Rev. Baptist Noel Turner, M.A., rector of Denton, co. Linc, and of Wing, co. Rutland. Dr. Rimbault says: "The essay shows considerable learning, and was evidently intended to ridicule the Shakesperian commentators. It is now chiefly interesting, as giving us the *earliest printed* versions of some of our well-known nursery ditties. These rhymes were first collected by Ritson, in his Gammer Gurton's Garland, printed for R. Triphook, in 1810, and have since been reproduced by Halliwell and a host of imitators. None of these collectors, as far as I am aware, has referred to Mr. Turner's Essay." He then cites various Nursery Rhymes, and points out the variations in Ritson's copies.

In the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1826, part ii, pp. 467-9, is an obituary of Rev. B. N. Turner, prepared in part from his own notes. It mentions various of his writings and states that "in 1791 he published a political satire called 'Infant Institutes,' 'fraught,' he observes, 'with matter so eccentric and laughable as might chance to arrest the attention and raise the spirit of the public.'" This disposes of any doubts as to the authorship of this collection of nursery rhymes.

It is a strange fact, however, that Ritson's "Garland" consists of four

parts ; and his brief preface reads as follows : " Parts I and II were first collected and printed by a literary gentleman, deceased, who supposed he had preserved each piece according to its original edition ; an opinion not easily refuted, if worth supporting. Parts III and IV are now first added."

As I have been unable to see a copy of the " Infant Institutes," I cannot say whether it is identical with Parts I and II of Ritson. If it be, the inference is that Ritson was misinformed as to the author, as Mr. Turner was a prominent clergyman and was alive when Ritson wrote, dying May 18th, 1826, aged 86. If it be not, we have still to find a copy of the book on this subject " first collected and printed by a literary gentleman deceased," before 1810 ; and also to explain why Ritson knew nothing of the *Infant Institutes* of 1797.* Very possibly the fact will be proved that prior to 1797, some " literary gentleman " had published the book which Ritson used, and that it served as the model for Turner to travesty as " a political satire."

At all events, here is one volume, if not two, treating on *Nursery Rhymes*, printed between Newbery's " *Mother Goose's Melody*," of 1780, and Ritson's " *Gammer Gurton's Garland*," of 1810. Whoever first printed Parts I and II of Ritson's " *Garland*," certainly absorbed therein almost the whole of Newbery's book ; of course from a printed copy. This fact is indisputable, because Newbery's " *Mother Goose*" contains fifty-two *Nursery Rhymes*, and of these, thirty-seven are in Ritson, most of them in identical words, and several in the same consecutive order.

Ritson's collection is the following :

" *GAMMER GURTON'S GARLAND: or, the Nursery Parnassus. A choice collection of pretty songs and verses, for the amusement of all little good children who can neither read nor run. London: printed for R. Triphook, 37 St. James-street, by Harding & Wright, St. John's square, 1810.*" 12mo. pp. 46. It is divided into four parts, and contains many rhymes not in Newbery's book, but which have since been incorporated into " *Mother Goose's Melody*," as used for the last half century.

In 1842, Halliwell printed his collection, pp. 192, for the Percy Society. Although he does not mention Ritson's book, it is evident that he possessed and used it, as nearly all of Ritson is contained in his book. Halliwell, being a great collector and annotator of Shakesperian literature, enriched his work with some valuable notes. His book, being much larger than its predecessors, has been the store-house from which later editions of " *Mother Goose*" have been increased in size, often to the injury of their

* Dr. Rimbault must have read Ritson very carelessly, as he cites two rhymes which, he says, are in the " *Infinites*," and not in Ritson. Yet both are in Ritson's Part III.

fitness. It is undoubtedly fair to abate somewhat Halliwell's claim that his rhymes were "collected principally from oral tradition," since he utilized three printed predecessors. It is very unfortunate, also, that he did not acknowledge the sources from which he copied, and devote a few pages to the bibliography of the subject.

In *Notes and Queries* for 20th January, 1877 (5th S., vii, 54), I note that the preface to a fifth edition of Halliwell is dated December, 1853; and that there was a sixth edition of 333 pages, printed for John Russell Smith, of London. In 1877 the copyright was owned by Frederick Warne & Co., and the book "has been incorporated with Mrs. Valentine's Nursery Rhymes, Tales and Jingles."

* * *

We must now resume the history of Newbery's original "Mother Goose's Melody." The English editions have practically disappeared; at least Mr. Welsh writes that he has never been able to see an example of Newbery's print. But, fortunately, Isaiah Thomas, of Worcester, Mass., soon after the Revolution, took up the business of reprinting story books for children, and copied many of Newbery's favorite issues. A number of these are cited in the advertisement annexed to this "Melody." The most noted, perhaps, of all these Newbery books, was the History of Little Goody Two-Shoes. A reprint of this was issued by Mr. Welsh (London, 1882), a facsimile of the third edition of 1766. The best authorities attribute this little story to Goldsmith. In the Boston Public Library is a beautiful copy of Thomas's reprint, dated Worcester, 1787, which is a page-for-page reproduction, but probably from Newbery's first edition. The cuts are evidently done over, and imitate very well the originals; but towards the end of the book they vary in details from Mr. Welsh's example. There is no necessity, therefore, to presume that Thomas imported the cuts which had been used by Newbery. He did, indeed, slightly alter the publisher's personal notes, which Newbery was fond of inserting, substituting Worcester for London, etc.

In 1787 Thomas printed the following:

"The Juvenile Biographer; containing the Lives of little Masters and Misses; including a Variety of Good and Bad Characters. By a little Biographer. The first Worcester edition. Worcester (Massachusetts), printed by Isaiah Thomas, and sold at his Book Store. Sold, also, by E. Battelle, Boston. M. D. CC. LXXX VII." Pp. 119.

Annexed is the following very full list of other publications, including Mother Goose's Melody :

The Brother's Gift.	The Travels of Robinson Crusoe.
The Sister's Gift.	Hagar in the Desert (from the French).
The Father's Gift.	The Beauty and the Monster.
The Mother's Gift.	History of the Holy Jesus.
The Fairing.	Be Merry and Wife.
The Sugar-Plumb.	The Natural History of Four-footed Beasts. By Tommy Trip.
The History of Little Goody Two Shoes.	The Holy Bible abridged.
Tom Thumb's Exhibition.	The History of Little King Pippin.
Mother Goose's Melody.	A Bag of Nuts. By Thomas Thumb.
Little Robin Red Breast.	Nurse Truelove's New Year's Gift.
Tom Thumb's Play-Book.	
The Little Puzzling Cap.	
The Big Puzzling Cap.	

I am informed by E. M. Barton, Esq., that in the American Antiquarian Society's Library there are copies of the "History of the Holy Jesus," "Nurse Truelove's New Year's Gift," and the "Entertaining Stories," all issued by Thomas in 1786, and all containing the advertisement of "Mother Goose's Melody." We seem, therefore, justified in placing the first issue of this latter at *about* 1785.

By the kindness of Miss Caroline M. Hewins, of the Public Library, Hartford, Conn., I have a full copy of one of Thomas's most characteristic reprints, which I place here on account of the full and interesting list of his publications. The book is entitled, "The Picture Exhibition, containing the Original Drawings of eighteen Disciples. To which are added, Moral and Historical Explanations. Published under the Inspection of Mr. Peter Paul Rubens, Professor of Polite Arts. Printed at Worcester, Massachusetts, by Isaiah Thomas, and sold, Wholesale and Retail, at his Bookstore. M DCC LXXX VIII."

CONTENTS.

- No. 1. The Mousetrap, by Master Hayman.
2. A Battle Scene, by Master Broughton.
3. A Winter Piece, by Master Vandyke.
4. Rural Simplicity, by Miss Grignon.
5. The Taking of the Birds' Nest, by Master Avis.

- No. 6. The Idler, by Master Johnson.
- 7. The Shadowist ; a Fancy Piece, by Master Zoffani.
- 8. The Washing of the Lions at the Tower, by Master Green.
- 9. The Judgment of Arcopagus ; a Historical Piece ; by Master Clement.
- 10. The Creation of the World, by Master Adam.
- 11. A Dog, by Master Lane.
- 12. The Truant Player, by Master Thoughtful.
- 13. The Temple of Fame, by Master Ravenet.
- 14. The Hunting of the Cat, by Master Nimrod.
- 15. A Time Piece, by Miss Prudence.
- 16. The Lottery, by Master Rubens.
- 17. Leap Frog, by Mr. Godfery Kneller.
- 18. The Dreamer, a Fancy Piece, by Master Dormer.

The advertisement has no special value, but the annexed list of Thomas's publications is very full and interesting. I have numbered the titles for convenience in reference.

Books for Masters and Misses of all ages, which will make them wise and happy. Printed and sold by Isaiah Thomas, at his Bookstore in Worcester, Massachusetts, all ornamented with Cuts, and prettily bound.

The following are all price four Cents each, or four federal coppers, viz :

- 1. Nurse Truelove's Christmas Box.
- 2. The Father's Gift ; or, the Way to be wise.
- 3. The Brother's Gift ; or, the naughty Girl reformed.
- 4. The Sister's Gift ; or, the naughty Boy reformed.
- 5. The Little Puzzling Cap ; or, a Collection of pretty Riddles.
- 6. The Royal Alphabet ; or, Child's best Instructor ; to which is added the History of a little Boy found under a Haycock.
- 7. The Death and Burial of Cock Robbin ; with the tragic Death of A, Apple Pye.
- 8. The remarkable History of Tom Jones, a Foundling.
- 9. Tom Thumb's Folio ; or, a Three penny play Thing for Little Giants ; to which is added an Abstract of the Life of Mr. Thumb.
- 10. Entertaining Tales, for General Instruction.
- 11. Jacky Dandy's Delight ; or, the History of Birds and Beasts.
- 12. The renowned History of Giles Gingerbread, a little boy who lived on learning.

13. The History of Master Jackey and Miss Harriot ; with Maxims for the Improvement of the Mind.
14. The Travels of Robinson Crusoe. Written by himself.
[With many others of the same Size and Price.] Also,
15. Tom Thumb's Play Book, to teach children their Letters as soon as they can speak. Being a new and pleasant method to allure little ones in the first Principles of Learning. Price only two Pence.

The following are all price eight Cents each :

16. The Fairing ; or, a golden Toy for Children of all Sizes and Denominations.
17. The Lilliputian Masquerade.
18. Virtue and Vice ; or, the History of Charles Careful and Harry Heedless, showing the good Effects of continued Prudence.
19. Nurse Truelove's New Year's Gift, &c.
20. Hagar in the Desert. Translated from the French.
- 20.* New Song Book.
21. A Little Lottery Book for Children : Containing a new method of playing them into a knowledge of Letters and Figures, &c.
22. History of the Holy Jesus. Containing a brief and plain Account of his Birth, Life, Death, Resurrection and Ascension into Heaven ; and his coming again at the great and last Day of Judgment.

The following are to be sold at eight Pence each, viz :

23. The Mother's Gift ; or a Present for all little children who want to be good. In two volumes.
24. The Royal Primer ; or, an Easy Guide to the Art of Reading.
25. The big Puzzling Cap ; or, a Collection of Riddles.
26. Mother Goose's Melody, or Sonnets for the Cradle ; being a Collection of all the famous Songs of nurses, ornamented with numerous Cuts.
27. A Bag of Nuts, ready cracked ; being a Collection of Fables, Riddles and Conundrums.
28. The Lottery Book ; with Mr. C.'s Alphabet set to musick.
29. The Beauty and the Monster. Translated from the French.

The following are fold at one Shilling each :

30. The Holy Bible abridged ; or, the History of the Old and New Testament. Illustrated with Notes and adorned with Cuts. For the Use of Children.
31. Little Robin Red Breast ; a Collection of pretty Songs, for Children, entirely new.
32. The History of little Goody Two-Shoes, otherwise called Mrs. Margery Twoshoes. With the Means by which she acquired her learning and Wisdom ; and in consequence thereof her Estate.
33. The Sugar Plumb ; or, Sweet amusement for Leisure Hours ; Being an entertaining and instructive Collection of Stories, Embellished with curious Cuts.
34. Be Merry and Wise ; or, the Cream of Jests and the Marrow of Maxims.
35. The Juvenile Biographer ; containing the Lives of Little Masters and Misses : including a Variety of good and bad Characters.
36. A little pretty Pocket Book, intended for the Instruction of Master Tommy and Miss Polly, with Letters from Jack the Giant Killer ; to which is added a little Song Book, and Rules for Behaviour.
37. The Picture Exhibition, moral and historical, well calculated to improve the mind.
38. A pretty New Year's Gift ; or, Entertaining Histories for the Amusement and Instruction of young Gentlemen and Ladies in Winter Evenings. By Solomon Soberfides.
39. The natural History of four-footed Beasts. By Tommy Trip.
40. Master Columbus's Natural History of Birds and Beasts. In 2 vols.
41. Solomon Winlove's approved Collection of Entertaining Stories.
42. Vice in its Proper Shape ; or, the wonderful and melancholy Transformation of several naughty Masters and Misses into those contemptible Animals which they most resembled in Disposition. Printed for the Benefit of all good Boys and Girls.

The following are price 1s. 2d. each :

43. A poetical Description of Song Birds, with a Drawing of each ; interspersed with Songs, Fables and Tales.
44. The adventures of a Pincushion. Designed chiefly for the use of Young Ladies.

- 45. Memoirs of a Peg Top.
- 46. The Holiday Present, containing Anecdotes of a worthy Family.

The following are price 1s. 8d. each.

- 47. The Remarkable and Surprising Adventures of David Simple ; containing an account of his Travels through the cities of London and Westminster.
- 48. The Adventures of Roderick Random ; containing the Remarkable Accidents which happened to him and his friend Strap, the Barber.
- 49. The History of Amelia ; or, a Description of a Young Lady ; who, from a great Fortune was reduced almost to Poverty ; with an Account of her recovering it ; for which *he* [*sic.*] was hanged.
- 50. The Adventures of Peregrine Pickle, &c.
[With many others of the same Size and Price.]

Two specimens of Thomas's reprint of Mother Goose's Melody, each lacking the title page, have been preserved ; and it is from one now owned by the present editor that the following pages are printed in fac-simile. It will be noted that the original consists of very small pages, four being placed on a page of our copy.

* * *

It is impossible to say how long these Melodies were issued by Thomas ; we only strike sure ground in the editions printed at Boston, for Munroe & Francis.

Edmund Munroe and David Francis, printers and bookfellers, began business in 1801. In 1822 and 1823 they kept at 4 Cornhill, which was the southerly corner of the present Washington and Water streets. From 1825 to 1840, their store is called 128 Washington street ; after 1841 they were in Devonshire street, corner of Spring Lane.

The name of Cornhill was changed to Washington street in 1824, and although they remained in the same store, the designation was altered. They issued an edition of Mother Goose, which I am about to describe, and though undated, it describes them as at 128 Washington street. The very perfect copy now owned by Joseph W. Robbins, of Boston, has inscribed in it by his infant hand, "in the year 1827." We are thus assured that the issue was not earlier than 1824 nor later than 1827. So, again, on p. 115,

we find the early song of "See-saw sacradown, which is the way to Boston town," amended by the addition of these two lines :

"Boston town's changed into a city,
But I've no room to change my ditty."

As we know, Boston was chartered in 1822.

The seventy cuts are there, and are very creditable to the artists. Bowen's name is signed to one, and his initials to several more. N. D., *i. e.* Nathaniel Dearborn, is on several, and one is signed, apparently, "Chiket's, sc.," Evidently, Munroe & Francis intended to do their best.

The last page is signed "Jemima Goose," which is interesting, as evidence that no one then associated the book with Elizabeth Vertigoose, the mother-in-law of John Fleet.

The book is about four and a half inches tall and three and a half inches wide; the type three and nine-sixteenths inches tall, two and seven-eighths inches wide.

It seems certain that the compiler of this edition had access to Newbery's original, or, more probably, to Thomas's reprint. On p. 44, the footnote is reprinted from one of these, almost *verbatim*: and no two independent writers would have so agreed. Again, on p. 80, Newbery's title is copied, "A logical song, or, the conjurer's reason for not getting money." Moreover, this song seems to be peculiar to Newbery, not being in *Gammer Gurton's Garland*. So, again, Munroe & Francis's book has the well-known quatrain, "Jog on, jog on, the foot-path way," which is in Newbery, in the second or Shakesperian portion. It is not in Ritson nor Halliwell. It is to be found in the "Winter's Tale," act iv, scene iii. It is curious to note that the second line in Shakespeare reads,

"And merrily *hent* the stile, a."

This verb "hent," being obsolete in the last century, is replaced here by "mend;" but later it is translated as "jump," which seems to be the meaning.

In fact an exact comparison shows that out of fifty-one titles in Newbery forty-eight are in the Boston edition. The three omitted are—

p. 23. There was an old woman.

p. 57. A long tailed pig.

p. 72. Piping hot.

All of which would be deservedly omitted now.

It is much more difficult to decide whence Munroe & Francis obtained the additions which so increased their book. A portion is evidently modern, as for example Sir Walter Scott's "Pibroch of Donnell Dhu," which appeared in 1816. But many of those melodies which are not in Newbery's book, and are in this, are to be found in Ritson; they are, beyond question, of considerable antiquity.

The outside cover of this book reads, on the front,

BOSTON:

PRINTED BY MUNROE & FRANCIS,

128 WASHINGTON STREET.

Then comes the true title, as shown in *fac-simile* :

Mother Goose's Quarto :

OR

MELODIES COMPLETE.

SOME OF WHICH

HAVE RECENTLY BEEN DISCOVERED AMONG THE

MANUSCRIPTS IN HERCULANEUM,

AND OF COURSE HAVE NEVER BEFORE APPEARED IN PRINT

THE OTHERS

DILIGENTLY COMPARED WITH THE EMENDATIONS OF THE MOST

APPROVED ANNOTATORS,

THE TRUE READINGS RESTORED, AND CORRUPTIONS EXPUNGED.

WITH COPIOUS ENGRAVINGS.

BOSTON :

PUBLISHED BY MUNROE AND FRANCIS,

NO. 128 WASHINGTON STREET

Then follow 118 pages, and I give a *fac-simile* of the last page. The outside cover, rear, represents an old woman sitting in a chair, talking to a little boy and girl ; under this cut, 128 Washington Street :

118 MOTHER GOOSE'S MELODIES

~~~~~  
 John O'Gudgeon was a wild man,  
 He whipt his children now and then,  
 When he whipt them he made them dance  
 Out of Ireland into France.

~~~~~  
 Little Jack Nory
 Told me a story.
 How he try'd cock-horse to ride,
 Sword and scabbard by his side,
 Saddle, leaden spurs, and switches,
 His pocket tight with cents all bright,
 Marbles, tops, counters, props,
 Now he's put in jacket and breeches.

~~~~~  
 One-ery, you-ery, e-kery, haven,  
 Hollow-bone, tollow-bone, ten or eleven,  
 Spin. spin. must be done,  
 Hollow-bone, tollow bone, twenty-one.

JEMIMA GOOSE

As this edition, as will be shown, is substantially the same as that copyrighted in 1833, and is the parent of all later issues, I subjoin a table of contents. The pages cited in the left-hand margin are those of the edition of 1833. The items marked with a star are those found in Newbery's and Thomas's edition. Those marked C. have a wood-cut ; in many cases the illustration takes the greater part of the page.

A few of the more interesting and peculiar rhymes are quoted in full. It should be added, that in this edition of Munroe & Francis, quite a number of verbal changes were made from Thomas's text ; but it is needless to specify them :



| 1888<br>edition.<br>Page. | 1894<br>edition.<br>Page. | CONTENTS. MUNROE & FRANCIS EDITION, 1824.                                                                  |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3.                        | 5.                        | C. The north wind doth blow.                                                                               |
| 23.                       | 6.                        | a. Little boy blue, blow your horn.                                                                        |
| 20.                       |                           | b. In the month of sweet April. [Altered in 1833.]                                                         |
| 23.                       |                           | c. Shoe the horse and shoe the mare.                                                                       |
| 5.                        | *7.                       | C. Baa, baa, black sheep. [N. p. 59.]                                                                      |
|                           | *8.                       | a. This little pig went to market. [N. p. 54.]                                                             |
|                           |                           | b. Let us go to the wood says this pig.                                                                    |
| 85.                       | 9.                        | C. I had a little husband no bigger than my thumb.                                                         |
| 23.                       | 10.                       | a. Cold and raw the north winds blow.                                                                      |
| 12.                       |                           | b. Bye, baby bunting.                                                                                      |
| 52.                       |                           | c. Hush-a-bye baby, lie still with thy daddy.                                                              |
| 10.                       | *11.                      | C. a. When I was a little boy, I lived by myself. [N. p. 51.]                                              |
| 38.                       | *                         | b. Great A, little a, bouncing B. [N. p. 28.]                                                              |
| 58.                       | *12.                      | C. a. " Ride a cock horse to Banbury cross.                                                                |
|                           |                           | To see what Tommy can buy." [N. p. 33.]                                                                    |
| 52.                       |                           | b. Ride away, ride away, Johnny shall ride.                                                                |
| 11.                       | 13.                       | C. Sing, sing, what shall I sing ?                                                                         |
| 72.                       | *14.                      | C. Jack Sprat could eat no fat. [N. p. 43.]                                                                |
| 39.                       | *15.                      | C. a. Tell tale tit. [N. p. 45.]                                                                           |
| 40.                       | *                         | b. Pease porridge hot. [N. p. 41.]                                                                         |
| 50.                       | 16.                       | a. Little King Boggan he built a fine hall.                                                                |
| 44.                       |                           | b. How many days has my baby to play.                                                                      |
| 62.                       |                           | c. Wash me and comb me.                                                                                    |
| 13.                       | 17.                       | C. [Cut here in white line Chicket's fc.] Cushy cow, bonny,<br>let down your milk.                         |
| 62.                       | *18.                      | C. a. Three wife men of Gotham. [N. p. 21.]                                                                |
| 63.                       |                           | b. Harry come parry, when will you marry.                                                                  |
| 70.                       | 19.                       | C. Robert Barns, fellow fine.                                                                              |
| 44.                       | *20.                      | a. Pat a cake, pat a cake, baker's man. [N. p. 49.]                                                        |
| 32.                       |                           | b. Ride a cock horse to Banbury cross,<br>To see an old woman jump on a black horse. [Altered in<br>1833.] |
| 59.                       |                           | c. How many miles to Babylon.                                                                              |
| 18.                       | *21.                      | C. There was an old woman lived under a hill. [N. p. 24.]                                                  |
| 26.                       | 22.                       | C. [N. D.] Hark, hark, the dogs do bark.                                                                   |
| 9.                        | 23.                       | C. [AB.] The man in the moon came down too soon.                                                           |

# PREFACE.

## *Contents, etc.—Continued.*

| 1883<br>edition.<br>Page. | 1894<br>edition.<br>Page. |                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 18.                       | *24.                      | <i>a.</i> Shoe the colt. [N. p. 30.]                                                                                                                                                           |
| 28.                       |                           | <i>b.</i> Lavender blue and Rosemary Green.                                                                                                                                                    |
|                           |                           | <i>c.</i> Rain, rain, go away.                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 34.                       | 25.                       | <i>C.</i> There was an old woman who lived in a shoe.                                                                                                                                          |
| 24.                       | *26.                      | Hey, my kitten, my kitten. [N. p. 53.]                                                                                                                                                         |
| 64.                       | 27.                       | <i>C.</i> I'll sing you a song, of the days that are long.                                                                                                                                     |
| 28.                       | 28.                       | <i>C. a.</i> The lion and the unicorn.                                                                                                                                                         |
| 35.                       |                           | <i>b.</i> Arthur O'Bower has broken his band.                                                                                                                                                  |
| 51.                       | 29.                       | <i>C.</i> To bed, to bed, says Sleepy-Head.                                                                                                                                                    |
|                           | 30.                       | <i>C.</i> Bless you, bless you, burnie-bee,<br>Tell me where my true love be. [10 lines, modern.]                                                                                              |
| 36.                       | *31.                      | <i>C.</i> Hush-a-bye, baby, upon the tree-top. [N. p. 39.]                                                                                                                                     |
| 51.                       | 32.                       | <i>a.</i> Diglety diddledy, my mammy's maid.                                                                                                                                                   |
| 41.                       | *                         | <i>b.</i> There was a man of our town. [N. p. 55.]                                                                                                                                             |
| 46.                       | *33.                      | <i>C.</i> Ding, dong, bell, Puffy cat's in the well. [N. p. 25.]                                                                                                                               |
| 29.                       | *34.                      | <i>a.</i> Little Johnnie Pringle had a little pig. [N. p. 15.]                                                                                                                                 |
| 37.                       |                           | <i>b.</i> The rose is red, the violet blue.                                                                                                                                                    |
| 7.                        | 35.                       | <i>C.</i> Sing a song of sixpence.                                                                                                                                                             |
|                           | 36.                       | <i>a.</i> Continued.                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 8.                        |                           | <i>b.</i> Lady bird, lady bird, fly away home.                                                                                                                                                 |
| 33.                       | *37.                      | <i>C. a.</i> Who comes here, a Grenadier. [N. p. 42.]                                                                                                                                          |
| 25.                       |                           | <i>b.</i> "Kit and Kitterit and Kitterit's mother,<br>All went over the bridge together;<br>The bridge broke down, they all fell in,<br>'Good luck go with you,' says Tom Bolin."              |
| 32.                       | 38.                       | Johnny shall have a new bonnet.                                                                                                                                                                |
| 55.                       | 39.                       | <i>C.</i> [Bowen, sc.] Bobby Shaftoe's gone to sea.                                                                                                                                            |
| 35.                       | 40.                       | <i>C. a.</i> "Hey! rub-a-dub, ho! rub-a-dub, three maids in a tub,<br>And who do you think were there?<br>The butcher, the baker, the candlestick maker,<br>And all of them gone to the fair." |
| 15.                       | *                         | <i>b.</i> Alfred and Richard were two pretty men. [N. p. 60.]                                                                                                                                  |
| 50.                       | 41.                       | <i>C. a.</i> Tom, Tom, the piper's son.                                                                                                                                                        |
| 64.                       |                           | <i>b.</i> Jog on, jog on, the footpath way.<br>And merrily jump the style, a'. [N. p. 91.]                                                                                                     |
|                           | *42.                      | <i>a.</i> Little Jack Horner. [N. p. 40.]                                                                                                                                                      |

*Contents, etc.—Continued.*

|          |          |
|----------|----------|
| 1838     | 1894     |
| edition. | edition. |
| Page.    | Page.    |

77.                   *b.* There was a piper had a cow.
53. 43. *C.*       Pretty John Watts, We are troubled with rats.
- \*44.       *a.* †High diddle diddle, the cat and the fiddle. [N. p. 32.]
- † [FOOT NOTE.—“Surely it must have been a little dog, for a great dog would have been too wise to laugh at such nonsense.”]
- b.* Robin a bobbin, the big bellied hen.
- [Same as cover.]
45. *C.*       Little Miss Muffett.
15. \*46. *C. a.*   Round about, round about, Gooseberry Pie. [N. p. 36.]
73. \*           *b.* The fow came in with a saddle. [N. p. 63.]
57. \*47. *C.*       Boys and girls come out to play. [N. p. 66.]
48.       *a.* Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.
- b.* As I went in the garden, I saw five brave maids.
69.           *c.* The girl in the lane, That could not speak plain.
37. 49. *C. a.*   There was an old woman and what do you think.
- b.* “One-ery, you-ery, ekery, Ann,  
                  Phillify, follyfy, Nicholas, John.  
                  Quee-bee, quaw-bee, Irish Mary,  
                  Stinkle-em, stankle-em, buck.”
19. \*50. *C.*       There were two birds fat upon a stone. [N. p. 38.]
74. \*51. *C.*       Little Johnny Tucker, Sing for your supper. [N. p. 26.]
68. 52.       *a.* “There was a little man, And he had a little gun,  
                  And his bullets were made of lead;  
                  He shot John Sprig, Through the middle of his wig,  
                  And knocked it right off his head.”
45.           *b.* There was a man and he had naught.
59. 53. *C.*       Jemmy Jed went into a shed.
56. 54. *C. a.*   Puffy cat, puffy cat, where have you been.
- b.* “Liar, liar, lickspit,  
                  Turn about the candlestick;  
                  What is good for liars  
                  Brimstone and fires.”
55. *C.*       “See-saw, down in my lap,  
                  Up again on to her feet;  
                  Little girl lost her white cap,  
                  Blown away in the street.”

*Contents, etc.—Continued.*

|          |          |
|----------|----------|
| 1833     | 1894     |
| edition. | edition. |
| Page.    | Page.    |

- |       |         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 60.   | *56.    | Trip upon trenchers (slightly altered). [N. p. 17.]                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|       | *57. C. | <p>" Three children playing on the ice<br/> All on a summer's day ;<br/> As it fell out, they all fell in<br/> The rest they ran away.</p> <p>" Now had these children been at school,<br/> Or playing on dry ground,<br/> Ten thousand pounds to a fingle cent<br/> They had not all been drowned." [N. p. 47.]</p> |
| 4.    | 58.     | a. There was a mad man, And he had a mad wife.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 27.   |         | b. Hogs in the garden, catch 'em Towser.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 30.   | 59. C.  | You owe me five shillings, say the bells of St. Helen's.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|       | 60.     | a. Continued [11 verses].                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|       | 65.     | b. When I was a little he.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 61.   | 61. C.  | a. What's the news of the day?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|       | 5.      | b. " To market, to market, to buy a penny bun,<br>Home again, home again, market is done."                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 14.   | 62.     | a. There were two blind men went to see.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| ✓ 38. |         | b. The little black dog ran 'round the house.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|       | c.      | " [Wardrobe of the renowned Thomas Thumb, Esq., of<br>Thumb hall, Thumbshire.]"<br>An oaken leaf he had for his crown, etc.                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 84.   | 63.     | " Tom, Tom, of Islington,<br>Married a wife on Sunday."                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|       | 8.      | 64. a. One, two, buckle my shoe.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 26.   |         | b. Diddle, diddle, dumpling, my son John.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 44.   | 65. C.  | Puffy sits behind the log.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 22.   | 66.     | a. There was an old woman toft up in a blanket.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 76.   |         | b. Jacky, come give me thy fiddle.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 33.   | 67. C.  | Smiling girls, rofy boys.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|       | 68.     | Continued. [Modern.]                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 78.   | 69. C.  | Away pretty Robin. [Modern.]                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|       | 70.     | a. Continued.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 14.   |         | b. Fa, fe, fi, fo, fum, I smell the blood of an Englishman.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|       | 71. C.  | Pretty bee, do not buzz about over the flower. [Modern.]                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|       | 72.     | a. Continued.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

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edition. edition.  
Page. Page.

*Contents, etc.—Continued.*

- b.* The cuckoo's a bonny bird.
55. \*73. C. *a.* Bow, wow, wow. [N. p. 58.]
46. *b.* Drunken Tom, with jacket blue.
39. 74. *a.* Saturday night shall be my whole care.
47. \* *b.* I won't be my father's Jack. [N. p. 20.]
70. *c.* "Hey, ding a ding, I heard a bird sing,  
The parliament foldiers are gone to the King."
87. \*75. C. What care I how black I be. [N. p. 44.]
81. \*76. *a.* We're three brethren out of Spain. [N. p. 64.]
31. *b.* Once in my life I married a wife.
77. C. When the snow is on the ground. [Modern.]
88. \*78. *a.* Here's A. B. C. [N. p. 70; altered in 1833.]
68. \* *b.* There was an old man, And he had a calf. [N. p. 22.]
66. \*79. C. Is Master Smith within? [N. p. 31.]
74. \*80. *a.* A logical song, or, the conjurer's reason for not getting  
money. [N. p. 68.]
- b.* An Indian giant's fishing tackle.
47. 81. C. Bonny lafs, bonny lafs, will you be mine?
81. 82. *a.* Mary, Mary, quite contrary.
20. *b.* I'll tell you a story, About Mother Morey.
- c.* Thirty days hath September.
84. \*83. C. *a.* One, two, three, four, five. [N. p. 46]
88. *b.* Milkman, milkman, where have you been.
84. *a.* When the twister a twisting will twist him a twine.
84. \* *b.* Cock a doodle doo, My dame has lost her shoe. [N.  
p. 34.]
42. 85. C. As I was going to sell my eggs.
86. Cut "B."
87. *a.* I had a little hobby-horse, And it was dapple-gray.
95. *b.* Go to bed, Tom.
91. \* *c.* There were two black birds sitting on a hill. [N. p. 65.]
6. 88. C. *a.* Little Robin Redbreast sat upon a tree.
- b.* Bless you, bless you, Burny bee,  
Say, when will your wedding be? [4 lines.]
56. 89. *a.* Taffy was a Welchman.
21. *b.* One mifty, moifty morning.
53. *c.* Shake a leg, wag a leg, when will you gang?

1833 1824  
edition. edition.  
Page. Page.

*Contents, etc.—Continued.*

6. 90. C. a. The man in the wilderneys asked me.  
80. b. See-faw, Jack-a-daw.  
71. 91. C. Pibroch of Donnell Dhu.  
92. Continued.  
93. a. do.  
42. b. Old Miftrefs M'Shuttle.  
80. c. Rock-a-by, baby, thy cradle is green.  
89. \*94. C. a. There was an old woman,  
She fold puddings and pies. [N. p. 62.]  
66. b. Charley loves good cake and ale.  
92. 95. C. Willy boy, Willy boy, where are you going ?  
75. \*96. C. a. Hickory, diccory, dock. [N. p. 73.]  
11. b. When I was a little boy, I washed my mammy's dishes.  
87. \*97. C. See, faw, Margery Daw. [N. p. 27.]  
\*98. a. When I was a little boy, I had but little wit. [N. p. 50.]  
85. b. As I was going to St. Ives.  
20. 99. C. Sweep, sweep, chimney sweep.  
67. 100. C. a. Peter, Peter, pumpkin eater.  
86. \* b. Crofs patch draw the latch. [N. p. 19.]  
69. 101. C. Goofey, goofey, gander.  
58. 102. C. a. Ride a cock-horse to Banbury crofs,  
To buy little Johnny a galloping horse.  
b. "One-erzol, zu-erzol, zig-erzol zan,  
Bob tail, vinegar, little tall Tan,  
Harum scarum, Virgin Marum, blindfold."  
82. 103. C. When I was a little boy my mother kept me in.  
16. 103. We will go to the wood, fays Richard to Robin.  
104. Continued.  
[The pagination wrong in this form.]  
48. 106. London bridge is broken down.  
107. do.  
108. a. do.  
34. b. Hey, ding-a-ding, what fhall I fing ?  
78. 109. C. a. Handy-spandy, Jacky Dandy.  
65. b. I had a little doll, the prettiest ever seen.  
110. a. Fee, fau, foe, fum. [See p. 70.]  
68. \* b. Jack and Jill went up the hill. [N. p. 37.]



The title is as follows, the covers bearing a cut of a woman with a goose's head, etc. :

**MOTHER GOOSE'S  
M E L O D I E S.  
The only Pure Edition.**

CONTAINING  
ALL THAT HAVE EVER COME TO LIGHT OF HER  
MEMORABLE WRITINGS,  
TOGETHER  
WITH THOSE WHICH HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED AMONG THE MSS. OF  
**HERCULANEUM:**  
LIKEWISE  
EVERY ONE RECENTLY FOUND IN THE SAME STONE BOX  
WHICH HOLD THE GOLDEN PLATES OF THE BOOK OF MORMON.

---

THE WHOLE  
COMPARED, REVISED, AND SANCTIONED,  
BY ONE OF  
THE ANNOTATORS OF THE GOOSE FAMILY.

---

WITH MANY NEW ENGRAVINGS.

{ Entered, according to Act of Congress, in the year 1833, by MURRON & FRANCIS, }  
in the Clerk's office, of the District Court of Massachusetts. }

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*New York and Boston :*  
**C. S. FRANCIS AND COMPANY.**

Ninety-six pages, beginning on p. 3. Page 1 is title, p. 2 is an address



to the readers. The pages are  $3\frac{1}{2}$  in. wide by  $4\frac{1}{2}$  in. high, and have a ruled border. The last page is here given in *facsimile* :

GOOSE'S QUARTO  
WITH SEVENTY ENGRAVINGS.

96

ADVERTISEMENT.

My young friends, when you have read the Verses  
in this Book, I recommend that you  
purchase my new volume of

**CHIMES, RHYMES & JINGLES,**

WHICH CONTAINS THE REMAINDER OF

**MOTHER GOOSE'S SONGS :**

BESIDES SOME NEW STORIES, SUCH AS FOLLOW :—

‘ THE KID THAT WOULDN’T GO.’

‘ HITTERY TITTERY, WHO WENT UP CHIMNEY.’

‘ THE DEATH OF LITTLE JENNY WREN, AND WHAT THE  
DOCTORS SAID ABOUT HER.’

‘ THE HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT.’

&c. &c. &c.

*Illustrated with new and beautiful Pictures.*

Although I have not seen this book, I presume that it was printed, and may yet be found.

In 1860 a new copyright was obtained by James Miller, 647 Broadway, New York, successor to C. I. Francis & Co., but the changes are not very great from the Boston edition.

I believe that this particular edition is no longer in print, and the rival

issues of McLoughlin Bros., of New York, and others, seem to hold the market.

A friend in Boston, possesses a copy, given him in 1843, of a different collection. It is entitled, "Mother Goose's Quarto, or, Nursery Melodies, embellished with two hundred engravings. New York: Published by Edward Dunigan, 151 Fulton Street." No date, 94 pages, not numbered.

Among curiosities I would class an edition copyrighted in 1848, by George S. Appleton, of Philadelphia, styled "Mother Goose in Hieroglyphics;" and one issued by George Routledge & Sons, New York, illustrated by Kate Greenway, "as originally engraved and printed by Edmund Evans." What this last phrase means I do not know.

English publishers, also, now send forth enormous editions, and this little book seems to promise to reach wherever babies are taught the English language.

\* \* \*

As to the merits of Newbery's collection, little need be said. Most of the rhymes thus brought together are still in vogue; two or three are coarse or trivial, and are unworthy of continuance. In Ritson I find many added which are now favorites, and Halliwell has a few. It has been abundantly pointed out, especially by Halliwell, that some of these rhymes were in use in Shakespeare's time and even earlier.

"The Queen of Hearts, she made some tarts," four long stanzas, is quoted in *Notes and Queries*, 3d S., viii, 133, from the *European Magazine*, 1782, vol. i, p. 252. Again in *Notes and Queries*, 5th S., v, 366, Dr. Rim-bault writes:

"In a song entitled 'The London Medley,' printed in *The Aviary*, 1744, the following are quoted:

'Colly, my cow.'

'Tom Farthing.'

'Old Obadiah sings Ave Maria.'

'Sing, lullaby, baby, on the tree top.'

'An old woman and her cat sat by the fire.'

'There was an old woman fold puddings and pies.'"

In "The Fashionable Lady, or, Harlequin's Opera," 1730, mention is made of "London bridge is broken down;" and in "The Grub Street Opera," 1731, the finale is directed to be sung to the tune of "Little Jack Horner."

In *Notes and Queries*, 4th S., vii, 386, it is stated that in *Grafton's Chronicle*, dated 1570, is the following :

"Thirty days hath November,  
April, June and September,  
February hath twenty-eight alone  
And all the rest have thirty-one."

In *Winder's Almanac*, for 1636, printed at Cambridge, is this version :

"April, June and September  
Thirty days have, as November ;  
Each month else doth never vary  
From thirty-one, save February,  
Which twenty-eight doth still confine  
Save on leap-year, then twenty-nine."

This rhyme, although not to be found in *Mother Goose*, is so universally taught to children, that I hope its introduction here is excusable.

As to what should constitute a standard edition of *Mother Goose*, I venture to make a closing suggestion.

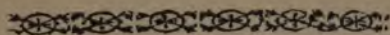
Corruptions of the text have crept into many of the late editions, and modern imitations have been foisted in too often. It is to be hoped that hereafter these objectionable features will disappear, and that future generations of babies will be carefully soothed only by such verses as have been duly approved by their predecessors, and handed down, not simply by oral transmission, but by the safeguard of an immaculate text.

As a contribution to this end, I would suggest that the standard text should consist of Newbery's book (omitting the rhymes on pp. 11-14, 15, 16, 62 and 68), and such additions from Ritson and Halliwell as bear internal evidence of antiquity, and are true "*Nursery Rhymes*." Many of those which are wanting in Newbery's first collection, have since been added, and have become so endeared to later generations, that their omission would be unjustifiable. But for the nursery use, a wise discrimination should be shown, and many rhymes rejected which are old, indeed, but unsuitable.

That such a text may be prepared, and that this attempt to trace the literary history of a most remarkable volume, may be of service therefor, is the sincere wish of the present editor.

W. H. W.

Boston, Sept. 6th, 1890.



## P R E F A C E.

By a very GREAT WRITER OF  
very LITTLE BOOKS.

MUCH might be said in favour of this collection, but as we have no room for critical disquisitions we shall only observe to our readers, that the custom of singing these songs and lullabies to children is of great antiquity: It is even as old as the time of the ancient *Druids*. *Charactatus*, King of the *Britons*, was rocked in his Cradle in the Isle of *Mona*, now called *Anglesea*, and tuned to sleep by some of these soporiferous sonnets. As the best things however, may be made an ill use of, so this kind of compositions has been employed in a satirical manner of which we have a remarkable instance so far back as the reign of king *Henry the fifth*. When that great monarch

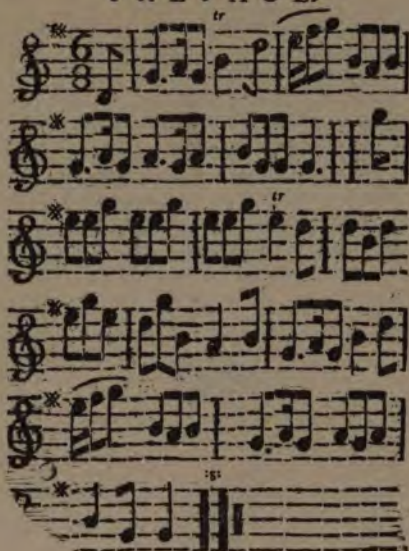
## P R E F A C E. vii

turned his arms against *France*, he composed the preceding march to lead his troops to Battle, well knowing that musick had often the power of inspiring courage, especially in the minds of good men. Of this his enemies took advantage, and, as our happy nation, even at that time, was never without a faction, some of the malcontents adopted the following words to the king's own march, in order to ridicule his majesty, and to shew the folly and impossibility of his undertaking.

There was an old woman tof'd in a basket,  
Seventeen times as high as the moon;  
But where she was going no mortal could tell,  
For under her arm she carried a broom.  
Old woman, old woman, old woman, said I  
Whither, ah whither, ah whither so high?  
To sweep the cobwebs from the sky,  
And I'll be with you by and by.

Here

## P R E F A C E.



## viii P R E F A C E.

Here the king is represented as an old woman, engaged in a pursuit the most absurd and extravagant imaginable; but when he had routed the whole *French* army at the battle of *Agincourt*, taking their king and the flower of their nobility prisoners, and with ten thousand men only made himself master of their kingdom; the very men who had ridiculed him before, began to think nothing was too arduous for him to surmount, they therefore cancelled the former sonnet, which they were now ashamed of, and substituted this in its stead, which you will please to observe goes to the same tune.

So vast is the prowess of *Harry the Great*,  
He'll pluck a Hair from the pale fac'd moon;  
Or a lion familiarly take by the tooth,  
And lead him about as you lead a baboon.  
All



## P R E F A C E. ix

All Princes and potentates under the sun,  
Through fear into corners and holes away run  
While no dangers nor dread his swift progress  
retards,

For he deals about kingdoms as we do our cards.

When this was shewn to his majesty he smilingly said that folly always dealt in extravagancies, and that knaves sometimes put on the garb of fools to promote in that disguise their own wicked designs. "The flattery in the last (says he) is more insulting than the impudence of the first, and to weak minds might do more mischief; but we have the old proverb in our favour—*If we do not flatter ourselves, the flattery of others will never hurt us.*"

We cannot conclude without observing, the great probability there is that the custom of making *Nonsense Verses* in our schools was bor-

## x P R E F A C E.

rowed from this practice among the old *British* nurseries; they have, indeed, been always the first preceptors of the youth of this kingdom, and from them the rudiments of taste and learning are naturally derived. Let none therefore speak irreverently of this ancient maternity, as they may be considered as the great grandmothers of science and knowledge.



### Mother GOOSE's Melody.



#### A LOVE SONG

**T**HERE was a little man,  
Who wooed a little maid;  
And he said, little Maid, will you  
wed, wed, wed?  
I have little more to say,  
So will you aye or nay,  
For the least said is soonest mended,  
ded, ded.

II. Then

### 12 Mother GOOSE's Melody.

#### II.

Then replied the little Maid,  
Little Sir, you've little said  
To induce a little Maid for to wed,  
wed, wed;  
You must say a little more,  
And produce a little Ore,  
E'er I make a little Print in your  
Bed, Bed, Bed.

#### III.

Then the little Man reply'd,  
If you'll be my little Bride,  
I'll raise my Love Notes a little  
higher, higher, higher;  
Tho' my offers are not meet,  
Yet my little Heart is great,  
With the little God of Love all on  
Fire, Fire, Fire.

#### IV.

Then the little Maid reply'd,  
Should I be your little Bride,



Mother GOOSE's Melody. 13

Pray what must we have for to eat,  
eat, eat ?  
Will the Flame that you're so rich in  
Light a Fire in the Kitchen,  
Or the little God of Love turn the  
Spit, Spit, Spit ?

V.

Then the little man he sigh'd,  
And, some say, a little cry'd,  
For his little Heart was big with  
Sorrow, Sorrow, Sorrow ;  
As I am your little Slave,  
If the little that I have  
Be too little, little, we will borrow,  
borrow, borrow.

He who borrows is another Man's  
Slave, and pawns his Honour, his Liber-  
ty, and sometimes his Nose for the pay-  
ment. Learn to live on a little, and be  
independent. *Patch on Prudence.*

VI. Then

14 Mother GOOSE's Melody.

VI.

Then the little Man so gent,  
Made the little Maid relent,  
And set her little Heart a think-king  
king, king,  
Tho' his Offers were but small,  
She took his little All,  
She could have but the Cat and her  
Skin, Skin, Skin.



Mother GOOSE's Melody. 15



A DIRGE.

**L**ITTLE *Betty Winckle* she had a  
Pig,  
It was a little Pig not very big ;  
When he was alive he liv'd in Clo-  
ver,  
But now he's dead, and that's all  
*Johnny Winckle*, he [over ;  
Sate down and cry'd,  
*Betty Winckle* she  
Laid down and dy'd ;  
So there was an End of one, two,  
and three,

*Johnny*

16 Mother GOOSE's Melody.

*Johnny Winckle* He,  
*Betty Winckle* She,  
And *Piggy Wiggle*.

A Dirge is a Song made for the Dead ;  
but whether this was made for *Betty Winckle*  
or her Pig, is uncertain ; no Notice being  
taken of it by *Cowden*, or any of the famous  
Antiquarians.

*Wall's System of Sense.*







Mother GOOSE's Melody. 17



*A melancholy SONG.*

**T**RIP upon Trenchers,  
And dance upon Dishes,  
My mother sent me for some Bawn,  
some Bawn :  
She bid me tread lightly,  
And come again quickly,  
For fear the young Men should do  
me some Harm.  
Yet didn't you see,  
Yet didn't you see, [on me  
What naughty tricks they put up  
They

18 Mother GOOSE's Melody.

They broke my Pitcher,  
And spilt the Water,  
And huffed my Mother,  
And chid her Daughter,  
And kiss'd my Sister instead of me.

What a Succession of misfortunes befel this  
poor Girl! But the last Circumstance was the  
most affecting, and might have proved fatal.

*Winflow's View of Bath.*

†  
† † †  
† † † † †

Mother GOOSE's Melody. 19



**C**CROSS Patch draw the Latch,  
Set by the Fire and spin ;  
Take a cup and drink it up,  
Then call your Neighbours in,

A common Case this, to call in our Neigh-  
bours to rejoice when all the good Liquor is  
gone. *P. 109.*

AMPHION'S

20 Mother GOOSE's Melody.



AMPHION'S SONG of EURYDICE.

**I**WON'T be my Father's Jack,  
I won't be my Father's Gill,  
I will be the Fiddler's Wife,  
And have Musick when I will.  
T'other little tune,  
T'other little Tune,  
Prithee, Love, play me  
T'other little Tune.

*Maxim.* Those arts are the most valuable  
which are of the greatest use.

THREE



Mother GOOSE's Melody. 21



**T**HREE wise Men of Gotham  
They went to Sea in a Bowl,  
And if the Bowl had been stronger  
My Song had been longer.

It is long enough. Never lament the Loss  
of what is not worth having. Boyle.

**THERE**

22 Mother GOOSE's Melody.



**T**HERE was an old Man,  
And he had a Calf,  
And that's Half ;  
He took him out of the Stall,  
And put him on the Wall,  
And that's all.

Maxim. Those who are given to tell all  
they know generally tell more than they  
know

**THERE**

Mother GOOSE's Melody. 23



**T**HERE was an old Woman  
Liv'd under a Hill,  
She put a mouse in a Bag,  
And sent it to Mill :  
The Miller did swear  
By the point of his Knife,  
He never took Toll  
Of a Mouse in his Life.

The only Instance of a Miller refusing Toll,  
and for which the Cat has just Cause of Com-  
plaint against him: Coke upon Littleton.

**THERE**

24 Mother GOOSE's Melody.



**T**HERE was an old Woman  
Liv'd under a Hill.  
And if she isn't gone  
She lives there still.

This is a self evident Proposition, which is  
the very Essence of Truth. She lived under  
the Hill, and if she is not gone she lives there still.  
Nobody will presume to contradict this.  
Crausa.

**PLATO's**







PLATO's SONG.

**D**ING dong Bell,  
The Cat is in the Well.  
Who put her in ?  
Little *Johnny Green*.  
What a naughty Boy was that,  
To drown Poor Puffy Cat,  
Who never did any Harm,  
And kill'd the Mice in his Father's  
Barn.

*Maxim. He that injures one threatens an Hundred.*

LITTLE



**L**ITTLE Tom Tucker  
Sings for his Supper ;  
What shall he eat ?  
White Bread and Butter :  
How will he cut it,  
Without e'er a Knife ?  
How will he be married,  
Without e'er a Wife ?

To be married without a wife is a terrible Thing, and to be married with a bad Wife is something worse ; however, a good Wife that sings well is the best musical Instrument in the World.

*Puffendorf.*  
SE



**S**E saw, *Margery Daw*,  
*Jacky* shall have a new Master ;  
*Jacky* must have but a Penny a Day,  
Because he can work no faster.

It is a mean and scandalous Practice in Authors to put Notes to Things that deserve no Notice.

*Grotius.*

GREAT



**G**REAT A, little a,  
Bouncing B ;  
The Cat's in the Cupboard,  
And she can't see.

Yes she can see that you are naughty, and don't mind your Book.

SE



Mother GOOSE's Melody. 29



SE saw, facaradown,  
Which is the Way to *Boston*  
Town?  
One Foot up the other Foot down,  
That is the Way to *Boston* Town.

Or to any other Town upon the Face of the  
Earth.

*Wickliffe.*

SHOE

30 Mother GOOSE's Melody.



SHOE the Colt,  
Shoe the Colt,  
Shoe the wild Mare;  
Here a nail,  
There a Nail,  
Yet she goes bare.

Ay, ay, drive the Nail when it will go:  
That's the Way of the World, and is the  
Method pursued by all our Financiers, Poli-  
ticians, and Necromancers.

*Vattel.*

IS

Mother GOOSE's Melody. 31



IS *John Smith* within?  
Yes, that he is.  
Can he set a Shoe?  
Aye, marry two.  
Here a Nail, and there a Nail,  
Tick, tack, too.

*Maxim.* Knowledge is a Treasure, but  
Practice is the Key to it.

HIGH

32 Mother GOOSE's Melody.



HIGH diddle, diddle,  
The Cat and the Fiddle,  
The Cow jump'd over the Moon;  
The little Dog laugh'd  
To see such Craft,  
And the Dish ran away with the  
Spoon.

It must be a little Dog that laugh'd, for a  
great Dog would be ashamed to laugh at such  
Nonsense.

RIDE





Mother GOOSE's Melody. 33



**R**IDE a Cock Horse  
To Banbury Cross,  
To see what Tommy can buy;  
A Penny white Loaf,  
A penny white Cake,  
And a Two penny Apple Pye.

There's a good Boy, eat up your Pye and  
hold your Tongue; for Silence is the sign of  
Wisdom.

C

COCK

34 Mother GOOSE's Melody.



**C**OCK a doodle doo,  
My Dame has lost her Shoe;  
My Master's lost his Fiddle Stick,  
And knows not what to do.

The Cock crows us up early in the Morn-  
ing, that we may work for our Bread, and not  
live upon Charity or upon Trust; for he who  
lives upon Charity shall be often affronted, and  
he that lives upon Trust shall pay double.

THERE

Mother GOOSE's Melody. 35



**T**HERE was an old Man  
In a Velvet Coat,  
He kiss'd a Maid  
And gave her a Groat;  
The Groat it was crackt,  
And would not go,  
Ah, old Man, d'you serve me so?

*Maxim.*

If the Coat be ever so fine that a Fool  
wears, it is still but a Fool's Coat.

ROUND

36 Mother GOOSE's Melody.



**R**OUND about, round about,  
Magotty Pye;  
My Father loves good Ale,  
And so do I.

*Maxim.*

Evil Company makes the Good bad and  
the Bad worse.

JACK



Mother GOOSE's Melody. 37



**J**ACK and Gill  
Went up the Hill,  
To fetch a Pail of Water ;  
Jack fell down  
And broke his Crown,  
And Gill came tumbling after.

*Maxim.*

The more you think of dying, the better  
you will live.

ARISTOTLE'S

38 Mother GOOSE's Melody.



ARISTOTLE'S STORY.  
**T**HERE were two Birds sat on  
a Stone,  
Fa, la, la, la, la, de ; [one,  
One flew away, and then there was  
Fa, la, la, la, la, de ;  
The other flew after,  
And then there was none,  
Fa, la, la, la, la, de ;  
And so the poor Stone  
Was left all alone,  
Fa, la, la, la, la, de.

This may serve as a Chapter of Consequence  
in the next new Book of Logick.

Mother GOOSE's Melody. 39



**H**USH a by Baby  
On the Tree Top,  
When the Wind blows  
The Cradle will rock  
When the Bough breaks  
The Cradle will fall,  
Down tumbles baby,  
Cradle and all.

This may serve as a Warning to the Proud  
and Ambitious, who climb so high that they  
generally fall at last.

*Maxim.*

Content turns all it touches into Gold.

LITTLE

40 Mother GOOSE's Melody.



**L**ITTLE Jack Horner  
Sat in a Corner,  
Eating of Christmas Pye ;  
He put in his Thumb,  
And pull'd out a Plumb,  
And what a good Boy was I.

Jack was a Boy of excellent Taste, as should  
appear by his pulling out a Plumb ; it is there-  
fore supposed that his Father apprenticed him  
to a Mince Pye maker, that he might improve  
his Taste from Year to Year ; no one standing  
in so much Need of good Taste as a Pastry  
Cook.

Ben by on the Sublime and Beautiful.  
PEASE





Mother GOOSE's Melody. 41



**P**EASE Porridge hot,  
Pease Porridge cold,  
Pease Porridge in the Pot  
Nine Days old,  
Spell me that in four Letters ?  
I will, **THAT**.

*Maxim.*

The poor are seldomer sick for Want of Food, than the Rich are by the Excess of it.

**WHO**

42 Mother GOOSE's Melody.



**W**HO comes here ?  
A Grenadier.  
What do you want ?  
A Pot of Beer.  
Where is your Money ?  
I've forgot.  
Get you gone  
You drunken Sot.

*Maxim.*

Intemperance is attended with Diseases,  
and Idleness with Poverty.

**JACK**

Mother GOOSE's Melody. 43



**JACK Sprat**  
Could eat no Fat,  
His Wife could eat no Lean ;  
And so, betwixt them both,  
They lick'd the Platter clean.

*Maxim.*

Better go to Bed supperless, than rise in Debt.

**WHAT**

44 Mother GOOSE's Melody.



**W**HAT Care I how black I be,  
Twenty Pounds will marry me ;  
If Twenty won't, Forty shall,  
I am my Mother's bouncing Girl.

*Maxim.*

If we do not flatter ourselves, the Flattery of others would have no effect.

**TELL**



Mother GOOSE's Melody, 45



**TELL** Tale Tit,  
Your Tongue shall be slit,  
And all the Dogs in our Town  
Shall have a Bit.

*Maxim.*

Point not at the Faults of others with a foul  
Finger.

ONE.

46 Mother GOOSE's Melody.



**O**NE, two, three,  
Four and Five,  
I caught a Hare alive;  
Six, seven, eight,  
Nine and ten,  
I let him go again.

*Maxim.*

We may be as good as we please, if we  
please to be good.

Mother GOOSE's Melody. 47



**A DOLEFUL DITTY.**

I.

**T**HREE Children sliding on the  
Upon a Summer's Day, [Ice  
As it fell out they all fell in,  
The rest they ran away.

II.

Oh! had these Children been at  
School,  
Or sliding on dry Ground,  
Ten Thousand Pounds to one Pen-  
ny,  
They had not then been drown'd.

III.

48 Mother GOOSE's Melody.

III.

Ye Parents who have children dear,  
And eke ye that have none,  
If you would keep them safe abroad  
Pray keep them all at home.

There is something so melancholy in this  
Song, that it has occasioned many People to  
make Water. It is almost as diuretick as the  
Tune which John the Coachman whistles to  
his Horses.

*Trumpington's Travels.*

**PATTY**







**P**ATTY Cake, Patty Cake,  
Baker's Man ;  
That I will Master,  
As fast as I can ;  
Prick it and prick it,  
And mark it with a T,  
And there will be enough  
For *Jackey* and me.

*Maxim.*

The surest Way to gain our Ends is to moderate our Desires.

D

WHEN



**W**HEN I was a little Boy  
I had but little Wit,  
'Tis a long Time ago,  
And I have no more yet ;  
Nor ever, ever shall,  
Until that I die,  
For the longer I live,  
The more Fool am I.

*Maxim.*

He that will be his own Master, has often a Fool for his Scholar.

WHEN



I.

**W**HEN I was a little Boy  
I liv'd by myself,  
And all the Bread  
And Cheese I got  
I laid upon the Shelf ;  
The Rats and the Mice  
They made such a Strife,  
That I was forc'd to go to Town  
And buy me a Wife.

II.

The Streets were so broad,  
The Lanes were so narrow,  
I was

I was forc'd to bring my Wife home  
In a Wheelbarrow ;  
The Wheelbarrow broke ;  
And my Wife had a Fall.  
Farewel  
Wheelbarrow, Wife and all.

*Maxim.*

Provide against the worst, and hope for the best.

MA



Mother GOOSE's Melody. 53



**O** MY Kitten a Kitten,  
And oh! my Kitten, my Dea-  
Such a sweet Pap as this [ry,  
There is not far nor neary;  
There we go up, up, up,  
Here we go down, down, down,  
Here we go backwards and forwards,  
And here we go round, round,  
round.

*Maxim.*

Idleness hath no Advocate, but many  
Friends.

**THIS**

54 Mother GOOSE's Melody.



**T**HIS Pig went to Market,  
That Pig staid at Home;  
This Pig had roast Meat,  
That Pig had none;  
This Pig went to the Barn door,  
And cry'd Week, Week, for more.

*Maxim.*

If we do not govern our Passions our Pas-  
sions will govern us,

**ALEX-**

Mother GOOSE's Melody. 55



**ALEXANDER's SONG.**

**T**HERE was a Man of *Theffaly*,  
And he was wond'rous wise,  
He jump'd into a Quick set Hedge,  
And scratch'd out both his Eyes:  
And when he saw his Eyes were out,  
With all his Might and Main,  
He jump'd into another Hedge,  
And scratch'd them in again.

**HOW**

56 Mother GOOSE's Melody.

How happy it was for the Man to scratch  
his Eyes in again, when they were scratch'd  
out! But he was a Blockhead, or he would have  
kept himself out of the Hedge, and not been  
scratch'd at all.

*Wiseman's new Way to Wisdom.*



**A LONG**





Mother GOOSE's Melody. 57



**A** LONG tail'd Pig, or a short  
tail'd Pig,  
Or a Pig without any Tail ;  
A Sow Pig, or a Boar Pig,  
Or a Pig with a curling Tail.  
Take hold of the Tail and eat off  
his Head ;  
And then you'll be sure the Pig hog  
is dead.

CÆSAR's

58 Mother GOOSE's Melody,



CÆSAR's SONG.

**B**OW, wow, wow,  
Whofe Dog art thou ?  
Little *Tom Tinker's* Dog,  
Bow, wow, wow.

*Tom Tinker's* Dog is a very good Dog, and  
an honest Dog, than his *Matter*.

BAH,

Mother GOOSE's Melody. 59



**B**AH, bah, black Sheep,  
Have you any Wool ?  
Yes, marry have I,  
Three Bags full ;  
One for my master,  
One for my Dame,  
But none for the little Boy  
Who cries in the Lane.

*Maxim.*

Bad Habits are easier conquered Today than  
Tomorrow.

ROBIN

60 Mother GOOSE's Melody.



**R**OBIN and *Richard*  
Were two pretty Men,  
They lay in Bed  
'Till the Clock struck Ten :  
Then up starts *Robin*  
And looks at the sky,  
Oh ! Brother *Richard*,  
The Sun's very high ;  
You go before  
With the Bottle and Bag,  
And I will come after  
On little *Jack Nag*.

What



Mother GOOSE's Melody. 61

What lazy Rogues were these to lie in Bed  
so long, I dare say they have no Clothes to  
their Backs ; for *Laziness clothes a Man with  
Rags.*



THERE

62 Mother GOOSE's Melody.



THERE was an old Woman,  
And she sold Puddings and  
She went to the Mill [Pies,  
And the Dust flew into her Eyes :  
Hot Pies  
And cold Pies to sell,  
Wherever she goes  
You may follow her by the Smell.

*Maxim.*

Either say nothing of the Absent, or speak  
like a Friend.

THE

Mother GOOSE's Melody. 63



THE Sow came in with a Saddle,  
The little Pig rock'd the Cradle,  
The Dish jump'd a top of the Table,  
To see the Pot wash the Ladle ;  
The Spit that stood behind a Bench  
Call'd the Dishclout dirty Wench ;  
Ods plut, says the Gridiron,  
Can't ye agree,  
I'm the Head Constable,  
Bring 'em to me.

*Note.* If he acts as Constable in this Case,  
the Cook must surely be the Justice of Peace.

WE'RE

64 Mother GOOSE's Melody.



WE'RE three Brethren out of  
*Spain*  
Come to court your Daughter *Jane* :  
My Daughter *Jane* she is too young,  
She has no skill in a flattering  
Tongue,  
Be she young, or be she old,  
It's for her Gold she must be sold ;  
So fare you well, my Lady gay,  
We must return another Day.

*Maxim.* Riches serve a wife Man, and gov-  
ern a fool.

THERE





Mother GOOSE's Melody. 65



**T**HERE were two Blackbirds  
Sat upon a Hill,  
The one was nam'd *Jack*,  
The other nam'd *Gill*,  
Fly away *Jack*,  
Fly away *Gill*,  
Come again *Jack*,  
Come again *Gill*.

*Maxim.*

A Bird in the Hand is worth two in the  
Bush.

E

BOYS

66 Mother GOOSE's Melody.



**B**OYS and Girls come out to  
play,  
The Moon does shine as bright as  
day ;  
Come with a Hoop, and come with  
a Call,  
Come with a good Will or not at  
all,  
Loose your Supper, and loose your  
Sleep,  
Come to your Play fellows in the  
Street,

Up

Mother GOOSE's Melody. 67

Up the Ladder and down the Wall,  
A Halfpenny Loaf will serve us all.  
But when the Loaf is gone, what  
will you do ?  
Those who would eat must work—  
'tis true.

*Maxim.*

All Work and no Play makes *Jack* a dull  
Boy.



*A Logical*

68 Mother GOOSE's Melody.



*A Logical SONG ; or the CONJU-  
ROR'S. Reason for not getting  
Money.*

**I** WOU'D, if I cou'd,  
If I cou'd'nt how cou'd I ?  
I cou'd'nt, without I cou'd, cou'd I ?  
Cou'd you, without you cou'd, cou'd  
ye ?  
Cou'd ye, cou'd ye ?  
Cou'd you, without you cou'd, cou'd  
ye ?

*Note,*



Mother GOOSE's Melody. 69

Note.

*This is a new Way of handling an old Argoment, said to be invented by a famous Senator ; but it has something in it of Gothick Construction.*

Sanderson.



A LEARNED

70 Mother GOOSE's Melody.



A LEARNED SONG.

**H**ERE's A, B, and C,  
D, E, F, and G,  
H, I, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q,  
R, S, T, and U,  
W, X, Y, and Z,  
And here's the child's Dad,  
Who is sagacious and discerning,  
And knows this is the Fount of  
Learning.

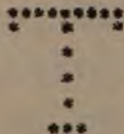
Note

Mother GOOSE's Melody. 71

Note.

*This is the most learned Ditty in the World ; for indeed there is no Song can be made without the Aid of this, it being the Gamut and Ground Work of them all.*

Moep's Geography of the Mind.



A SEA.

72 Mother GOOSE's Melody.



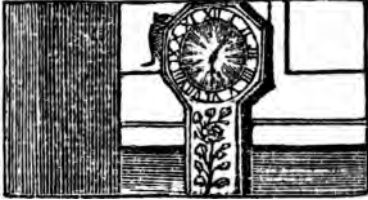
A SEASONABLE SONG.

**P**IPING hot, smoaking hot,  
What I've got,  
You know not,  
Hot hot Pease, hot, hot, hot ;  
Hot are my Pease, hot.

*There is more Musick in this Song, on a cold frosty Night, than ever the Syrens were possessed of, who captivated Ulysses ; and the Effects stick closer to the Ribs.*

Huggleford on Hunger  
DICK





**D**ICKERY, Dickery Dock,  
The Mouse ran up the Clock ;  
The Clock struck one,  
The Mouse ran down,  
Dickery, Dickery Dock.

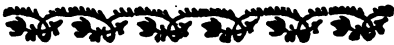
Maxim.  
*Time stays for no Man.*



MOTHER GOOSE'S  
M E L O D Y.

P A R T II.

CONTAINING THE  
LULLABIES of *Shakespeare*.



76 Mother GOOSE's Melody.



**W**HERE the Bee sucks, there  
suck I,  
In a Cowslip's Bell I lie :  
There I couch ; when Owls do cry,  
On the Bat's Back I do fly,  
After Summer, merrily.  
Merrily, merrily shall I live now,  
Under the Blossoms that hang on  
the Bough.



YOU



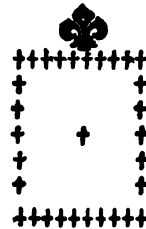
Mother GOOSE's Melody. 77

**Y**OU spotted Snakes, with double Tongue  
 Thorny Hedgehogs, be not seen ;  
 Newts and Blind worms, do no Wrong ;  
 Come not near our Fairy Queen.  
*Philomel*, with Melody,  
 Sing in your sweet Lullaby ;  
 Lulla, lulla, lulla, lullaby ; lulla,  
 lulla, lullaby.  
 Never, Harm, nor Spell, nor Charm,  
 Come our lovely Lady nigh ;  
 So good Night, with lullaby

TAKE

78 Mother GOOSE's Melody.

**T**AKE, oh ! take those Lips  
 away,  
 That so sweetly were foresworn ;  
 And those Eyes, the Break of Day,  
 Lights that do mislead the Morn :  
 But my Kisses bring again.  
 Seals of Love, but seal'd in vain.



SPRING

Mother GOOSE's Melody 79

SPRING.

**W**HEN Daisies pied, and Violets blue. [white ;  
 And Lady smocks all Silver  
 And Cuckow buds of yellow Hue,  
 Do paint the Meadows with Delight :  
 The Cuckow then on every Tree,  
 Mocks married Men, for thus sings he ;  
 Cuckow ! [Fear,  
 Cuckow ! cuckow ! O Word of  
 Unpleasing to a married Ear !  
 When Shepherds pipe on oaten  
 Straws,  
 And merry Larks are Ploughmen's Clocks :  
 When Turtles tread, and Rooks and  
 Daws,

And

80 Mother GOOSE's Melody.

And Maidens bleach their Summer smocks :  
 The Cuckow then on every Tree,  
 Mocks married Men, for thus sings he ;  
 Cuckow !  
 Cuckow ! cuckow ; O Word of Fear,  
 Unpleasing to a married Ear.



WINTER.





Mother GOOSE's Melody. 81

W I N T E R.

**W**HEN Icicles hang on the  
Wall,  
And *Dick* the Shepherd blows his  
Nail ;  
And *Tom* bears Logs into the Hall,  
And Milk comes frozen home in  
Pail :  
When Blood is nipt, and Ways be  
foul,  
Then nightly sings the staring Owl,  
Tu-whit ! to-whoo ;  
A merry Note,  
While greasy *Joan* doth keel the  
Pot.  
When all around the wind doth  
blow,  
And coughing drowns the Pas-  
son's Sow ;  
F And

82 Mother GOOSE's Melody.

And Birds sit brooding in the snow  
And *Marian*'s Nose looks red and  
raw :  
When roasted Crabs hiss in the  
Bowl,  
Then nightly sings the staring Owl  
Tu-whit ! To-whoo !  
A merry Note,  
While greasy *Joan* doth keel the  
Pot.



TELL

Mother GOOSE's Melody. 83

**T**ELL me where is Fancy bred,  
Or in the Heart, or in the  
Head ?  
How begot, how nourished ?  
Reply, reply.  
It is engender'd in the Eyes,  
With gazing fed, and Fancy dies  
In the Cradle where it lies ;  
Let us all ring Fancy's knell,  
Ding, dong, Bell ;  
Ding, dong, Bell.



UN-

84 Mother GOOSE's Melody.

**U**NDER the greenwood Tree,  
Who loves to lie with me,  
And tune his merry Note,  
Unto the sweet Bird's Throat :  
Come hither, come hither, con-  
hither,  
Here shall he see  
No Enemy,  
But Winter and rough Weather.



WHO



Mother GOOSE's Melody. 85

**W**HO doth Ambition shun,  
And loves to lie i' th' Sun  
Seeking the Food he eats,  
And pleas'd with what he gets ;  
Come hither, come hither, come  
hither ;  
Here shall he see  
No Enemy,  
But Winter and rough Weather.  
If it do come to pass,  
That any Man turn As ;  
Leaving his Wealth and Ease,  
A stubborn Will to please,  
Duc ad me, duc ad me, duc ad me ;  
Here shall he see  
Gross Fools,  
And many such there be.

**BLOW**

86 Mother GOOSE's Melody.

**B**L O W, blow, thou Winter  
Wind,  
Thou art not so unkind  
As Man's Ingratitude ;  
Thy Tooth is not so keen,  
Because thou art not seen,  
Altho' thy Breath be rude.  
Heigh ho ! sing, heigh ho ! unto the  
green Holly ;  
Most Friendship is feigning ; most  
loving mere folly.  
Then heigh ho, the Holly !  
This Life is most jolly.  
Freeze, freeze, thou bitter sky,  
That dost not bite so nigh,  
As Benefits forgot :  
Tho' thou the Waters warp,  
Thy Sting is not so sharp  
As Friend remember'd not,  
Heigh ho ! sing, &c.

**O MIS-**

Mother GOOSE's Melody. 87

**O** MISTRESS mine, where are  
you running ?  
O stay you here, your true Love's  
coming,  
That can sing both high and low.  
Trip no farther, pretty Sweeting,  
Journeys end in Lovers meeting,  
Every wise Man's Son doth know.  
What is Love ? 'tis not hereafter :  
Present Mirth hath present Laugh-  
ter.  
What's to come, is still unsure :  
In Decay there lies no Plenty ;  
Then come kiss me, sweet, and  
twenty,  
Youth's a Stuff will not endure.

**WHAT**

88 Mother GOOSE's Melody.

**W**HAT shall he have that kill'd  
the Deer ?  
His leather skin and horns to wear ;  
Then sing him home :—take thou  
no Scorn  
To wear the Horn, the Horn, the  
Horn :  
It was a Crest ere thou wast born.  
Thy Father's Father wore it,  
And thy Father bore it.  
The Horn, the Horn, the lusty  
Horn,  
Is not a Thing to laugh to scorn.

**WHEN**



Mother GOOSE's melody. 89

**W**HEN Daffodils begin to  
'pear,  
With, heigh ! the Doxy over the  
Dale ;  
Why then comes in the sweet o'th'  
Year,  
Fore the red Blood rains in the  
winter Pail,  
The white Sheet bleaching on the  
Hedge,  
With heigh ! the sweet Birds, O  
how they sing !  
Doth set my progging Tooth an  
edge :  
For a Quart of Ale is a dish for a  
King.  
The Lark, that tira lyra chants,  
With, hey ! with hey ! the Thrush  
and the Jay :

Are

90 Mother GOOSE's Melody.

Are summer Songs for me and my  
Aunts,  
While we lay tumbling in the  
Hay.



JOB

Mother GOOSE's Melody: 91

**J**OG on, jog on, the foot path  
Way,  
And merrily mend the Style a,  
A merry Heart goes all the Day,  
Your sad tires in a Mile a.



ORPHEUS

92 Mother GOOSE's Melody.

**O**RPHEUS with his Lute made  
Trees,  
And the Mountain Tops that  
freeze,  
Bow themselves when he did  
sing ;  
To his Musick, Plants and Flowers  
Ever rose, as Sun and Showers  
There had made a lasting Spring.  
Ev'ry Thing that heard him play,  
Ev'n the Bellows of the Sea,  
Hung their Heads, and then lay  
by.  
In sweet Musick is such Art,  
Killing Care, and Grief of Heart,  
Fall asleep or hearing die.

HARK.



Mother GOOSE's Melody. 93

**H**ARK, hark ! the Lark at  
Heav'n's Gate sings,  
And *Phæbus* 'gins arise,  
His Steeds to water at those Springs  
On chalic'd Flowers that lies,  
And winking May buds begin  
To ope their golden Eyes,  
With every thing that's pretty  
My Lady sweet, arise : [been ;  
Arise, arise.



THE

**BOOKS** for the Instruction and Amusement of Children, which will make them wise and happy, printed and sold by I. THOMAS, in Worcester, Massachusetts, near the Court House.

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94 Mother GOOSE's Melody.

**T**HE poor Soul sat singing by a  
Sycamore tree,  
Her Hand on her Bosom, her Head  
on her Knee,  
The fresh Streams ran by her, and  
murmur'd her Moans,  
Her salt Tears fell from her, and  
soften'd the Stones ;  
Sing, all a green Willow must be  
my Garland,  
Let nobody blame him, his Scorn I  
approve,  
I call'd my Love, false Love ; but  
what said he then ?  
If I court more Women you'll think  
of more Men.

FINIS.

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**Little ROBIN RED BREAST** ; a Collection of pretty Songs, for Children, entirely new.

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*The Original Mother Goose's Melody as issued by John Newbery, of London, circa 1760; Isaiah Thomas, of Worcester, Mass., circa 1785; and Munroe & Francis, of Boston, circa 1825. Reproduced in facsimile, with Introductory Notes by William H. Whitmore. To which are added the Fairy Tales of Mother Goose by Perrault. (Boston, U.S., Damrell & Upham; London, Griffith, Farran & Co.)* *Whitmore's* 22 Oct. 1892

WE should have thought that MM. Lefèvre, Deulin, and Lang had said all that there was to be said about Perrault, but the last word comes from America, and is spoken by Mr. Whitmore, who has edited the latest edition of 'Mother Goose's Melody' (why not "Melodies"?) as issued by John Newbery, of London, circa 1760, and pirated by Isaiah Thomas, circa 1785 (the vagueness of the dates points to the total destruction of these editions). To 'Mother Goose's Melody' are added—we know not why, except that they were published with the sub-title of 'Contes de Ma Mère L'Oye'—Perrault's eight admirable stories, which are supposed to have had the benefit of youth for their writer, and age for their reviser. Perrault's young son took them down from the narration of his nurse, and thus preserved for us some fragments of genuine traditional utterance which keep their age for ever green; and Perrault himself pruned and shaped them a little, or possibly was after all the sole agent of their preservation. If so, the little book to which he put his son's name, because being an Academician he was ashamed to put his own, secured for him an immortality which he would never have otherwise obtained. It is odd that a man who did so many things well should now be only remembered by these fairy tales and by the fact that he made such a good speech of thanks on his admission to the Academy that it was considered to have added a grace to the proceedings, and ever since that time speeches have been required.

Mr. Whitmore seems to think that in this edition he is giving us something new. "I trust," he says, "that my readers will agree with me that this version retains much of the simplicity, directness, and force of the original French." It certainly does. It is a very good and accurate translation, but it is one with which most of us are familiar, being neither more nor less than a reprint of the translation made in 1729 by Robert Samber, gent., for J. Pote, which went through many editions, and was done with so much conscientiousness that when the ogress in 'La Belle au Bois dormant' expresses her intention of eating little Aurore with Sauce Robert, Mr. Samber actually gives a recipe for that condiment.

This new version by Mr. Whitmore is reprinted from one published by John Newbery in 1796. We do not, therefore, understand the 1795 on the reprint of the title-

page given here; and something have been said about the omission of 'Discreet Princess,' which is declared title-page to be a new story of the au

It is very properly omitted, as it was by Perrault, but by Mlle. Lhéritier. by the way, longer than all Perrault's put together, which allows ample space for her beloved "broderie."

Mr. Whitmore's prefaces record acts of piracy, and much conviction that the great popularity of these books is due to the American editions. We are, however, to see that he no longer believes what he once believed—that the title originated in Boston, Mass., and that Mother Goose was Mrs. Elizabeth Vergoose (a name which perhaps, owing to certain family characteristics, was degenerate into Goose). Mrs. Elizabeth Vergoose was the widow of Isaac Vergoose, and mother-in-law of Thomas Fleet, a well-known Boston printer, who ran away from England in 1712, and said to have printed in 1719 the full title of 'Mother Goose's Melodies,' and given them that name because his mother-in-law, Mrs. E. Vergoose, often sang to his children. It seems absurd to think that any one can ever have seriously held this opinion. It is doubtful whether he ever brought out an edition of 'Mother Goose' in 1719; but even if he did, that of his having had a mother-in-law who was usually called Vergoose, and occasionally Goose, would not in 1719 have made the author of a title which had been on the frontispiece of Perrault's 'Contes de Ma Mère L'Oye' in 1697, and speedily became the only name by which the book was known. It was not even new when Perrault adopted it.

Mr. Lang tells us that it had been adopted by Loret in 'La Muse Historique,' Let June 11th, 1650; and M. Deulin, "Peau d'Ane était alors le maître conte de type, et on disait indifféremment contes de Peau d'Ane ou de la Mère L'Oye." He proceeds to say that when Louis XIV. was withdrawn from the care of his attendants, what he most regretted was that no one now told him the "Contes de Ma Mère L'Oye," with which the women had accustomed him to sleep. This, of course, disposed of Mrs. E. Vergoose's claim to be the Goose. Mr. Fleet's title. As for 'Mother Goose's Melody' as here given, it is difficult to see whether or no it fulfils its promise of being the original 'Melody' as issued by John Newbery, of London, for it is not easy to see a copy of that work. There is none in the British Museum, and Mr. Whitmore says that the English editions have practically disappeared. Books of this kind are, indeed, a poor chance of surviving the and tear of nursery life, and therefore they are liked the fewer copies are found. Were this otherwise, and we

than four or five copies of the first edition of 'Contes de Ma Mère L'Oye' known, would one bring close on a hundred pounds when by rare chance it appears in the auction room?

In the absence of Newbery's edition of 'Mother Goose's Melody' circa 1760, it is impossible to compare this version with that which it professes to follow closely, but it is impossible that Newbery could have printed:—

Jog on, jog on, the footpath Way,  
And merrily mead the Style a,  
A merry Heart goes all the Day,  
Your sad tires in a Mile a.

"Hent" may be obsolete, but it is Shakspeare, and merry hearts usually prefer jumping over styles to mending them. There are, however, worse deviations from Shakspeare than this. He wrote:—

Why, then comes in the sweet o' the year;  
For the red blood reigns in the winter's pale.

Mr. Whitmore prints, or reprints, the last line thus:—

For the red Blood rains in the winter Fall;  
while the line,  
Doth set my pugging tooth on edge,  
becomes  
Doth set my proggng Tooth an edge.

1893, page 11 (by W.H.W?)  
Ed. Globe, May 14, 1893

## WHO WAS MOTHER GOOSE?

Was She Mrs. Isaac Goose,  
Who Lived in Boston?

Or Was She the Idealized Nurse at the  
Cradle of the Human Race?

Rhymes Jingles Traced Back Far Into  
the Mists of Antiquity.



AND is it possible to give Mother Goose a local habitation and a name? asks the New York World.

Boston, with laborious research, has set this question at rest for many and asserts that within her old (fanciful) cradle reposes

precisely that is mother of the innumerable thousands which composed our childhood's nursery.

The tale is a most plausible one. According to it Elizabeth Poyser was born in Charlestown in 1700. In 1760 she became a member of the Old South church in Boston proper. In 1762 she was married to Isaac Goose

and, at the death of her first wife. The second marriage though not as productive of children, which she bore in the second of previous, and it was during her maternal years over these numerous offspring to the second union that Elizabeth Goose first composed the immortal ditties which bear her name.

Her home at that time was on Washington st. opposite Faneuil Hall.

Like many another she had to wait for a publisher and reader. The former came in the shape of her son-in-law.

Her eldest daughter, who bore her mother's name of Elizabeth, was married to Thomas Fleet in 1716. Fleet was a printer, and lived over his modest printing-house, which was located in Faneuil Hall near Devonshire st. near Water st.

Part of Fleet's business was the publication of ballads, plays and small works suited for the mental paladium of children.

Within the year following his marriage there was born a son and heir, and so great was the joy of Mrs. Goose, who had become a widow, that she insisted on taking complete charge of the first infant.

The scars and nonsense rhymes by which she had mothered her own numerous flock now found fresh vent, and the father of the lately arrived youngster, from a real interest in the mental of her long, soon passed to the opposite extreme of anathetic despair when he found her crack was interminable.

At last a bright thought flashed upon his befuddled brain. He determined to write down the much speaking of Elizabeth Goose and publish it. This was done, and in 1719 he set forth for the first time in history that most wonderful compilation:

SALES FOR THE SUNSET;

NO.

TALES FROM MOTHER GOOSE.

Price, Two Coppers.

The low price at which a book of such importance was issued speaks volumes for the magnanimity of Thomas Fleet. The only fact that compilers were unknown in New England till 1769 is dismissed as being

Recent the Plagiarism of the Truth of the foregoing.

The venerable Elizabeth Goose died in 1787, and she now lies buried in the sepulchre of the Quakers, which is behind and to the right of Paul Revere's monument in the Granary Burying-ground.

Could one believe this charming elaboration, one would imagine that this humble memorial to departed greatness be looked upon.

The quiet of the old burying ground is broken by the noise of the busy traffic which comes to its door neighborhood, and flanked on either side by the dust of these lamps in one and story the bones of the children's ancestral are laid to rest.

There, too, lie the old monuments of old Peter Franklin, Franklin's parents, the vicar of the Boston martyrs, the swift river Paul Revere, and many others, all keeping close company with the relics of good old Mother Goose.

The same cradle, however, compels us to turn aside from these fascinating contemplations and look still further for the real personality of the author of Mother Goose. Barring the fact that the whole of the above story rests upon the unsupported statement of John Reed Elliot, a descendant of Elizabeth Goose, the internal evidence of the story is all against its acceptance.

The most odd can be said in extenuation of the narrative is that it is not improbable that Thomas Fleet Jr., published in 1709 a book of the melodies of Mother Goose. It is also possible in whom the humor of the original compilation of the book is due.

Wherever we turn in Town, France, and even within the shadow of the tower of Big Ben, we have looked upon the site of the old monument of the parents of the author of Mother Goose. In 1716, when Fleet was married, he was living in the house which now bears the name of the author of Mother Goose. In 1719 he set forth for the first time in history that most wonderful compilation:



for learning and good nature, in 1729 he was elected a member of the French Academy, which fact at that time hardly an existence of half a century.

Though he especially distinguished himself by numerous works and literary labors in the Academy of Inscriptions and Belles-Lettres, Charles Perrault never came into popular prominence until he put out, under the name of his son, Charles d'Armandcourt, "Stories and Fables of Long Ago, with Their Morals."

The frontispiece represents an old woman spinning and telling wonder tales to a man, a girl, a little boy and an appreciative cat. On a placard is printed the following: "Tales from Mother Goose." Such then was the first origin of our venerable Mother Goose in book form.

The fame of the fabled Mother Goose did not reach English readers until 1729, when it was translated intact by Robert Samber; but here, too, the soil had to be prepared for the literary strangling, and it was not recognized as a classic until about 1760, when John Newbury, a printer of St. Paul's Churchyard, London, pushed its merits before his conservative patronizers.

He put out in all seven editions, and one bearing the date of 1777 is especially coveted by bibliomaniacs, for it was edited by Goldsmith.

One of Newbury's copies strayed across the Atlantic and first took a place besitting its value in the devout minds of the people of Massachusetts when Isaiah Thomas of Worcester republished it in 1787.

Possibly Thomas Fleet may have got hold of one of Newbury's issues, Edward N. Crowninshield asserted that he in 1858 had seen a copy of Fleet's publication of the work at the rooms of the Worcester Antiquarian Society. It has never been found.

Admitting that he did see it, there was no possibility of its year of origin going back of 1760, and at that time the putative Boston author of "Mother Goose" had been sleeping her last sleep for three years.

The above exposition gives all the well-authenticated facts relative to our modern version of "Mother Goose."

But the dear old maternity never lived as an actual person. Traces of her amiable presence can be detected throughout all ages and among all peoples.

Take, for instance, "Goosey, Goosey, Gander," etc. Pausanias relates that on the rear wall of the Basilica, built 182 B. C., and situated in the Forum at Rome, adorning the Curia, there was chiselled by the express orders of M. Porcius Cato, its founder, the following:

Ansercula,  
Ansercula, vagula blandula,  
Que anno abibi in loca?  
Sursom, deorsum,  
In domum cubiculum.

It cannot be denied that there is a suspicious modern swing to the metre of this Latinity on the vagrant goose, but the building and its site are too well known to archaeologists to attempt to deny them.

In Aristotle may be found nearly the exact counterpart of "Dickery, Dickery Dock," etc. The Latin translation of it by C. Fanianus Strabo is here given, for it is nearly identical with the Greek:

"*Diccora Dogium.*"  
Diccora, diccora dogino.  
Ascendit mos horologium;  
Inanuit hora.  
Fugit mos sine mora,  
Diccora, diccora, dogino.

The native prompting the penning of these lines, which were first written in one of the Athenian courts of justice, was a decisive one. Each advocate was limited, as to time in his address, and when the clock marked off his allotment the presiding judge incontinently shut off any long-winded attorney.

Then, as now, there were shyster lawyers, whom the rabble called the "court mice," and the meaning of the stanza, as interpreted by folk long adena, is that the court and spectators liked to see these shifty practitioners run into their holes at the stroke of the hour.

A few stubborn modern critics question the age of this rhyme, arising with some degree of force, that the first striking clock does not appear until 1300 at Westminster, *translating the issue, it will be observed that*

from an impression by a witty native of France, M. Dumont d'Aleux, upon that he holding the Perrine dance.

The author of the "Lamentable Tragedie of Cambles, King of Persia," published in 1611, by a queer oversight, referred to this same wonderful satirical performance as the "House of Hay Middle Diddle."

As for "I am His Highness' Deer at Kew," etc., it is well known that the aboriginals of the northern coast of South America and adjacent islands had a conist which set forth this profound inquiry, and it has drifted into the vernacular of the creoles of British Guiana under the variant, "Who is you?"

The same general observation holds good in reference to "A carrion crow sat on an oak," etc. The creole mother still edifies her offspring by a monotonous relative, in which allusions to "De karrin kro," are interspersed with harrowing painfulness to the cultivated ear.

Some writers have with much unction laid undue stress upon a rather far-fetched etymology of the word Goose. With patient toil and a false conception of phonetics they have traced the root back to the East Indian "guru," which means worthy of honor, coming down to later Saxon verbiage under the form of gooroo and gooroo.

This last, being a sort of universal infant Volapuk, is farther explained according to the rules of the Darwinists as expressing an inherited yearning for the pages of Mother Goose.

The German philologists have not neglected to wield their ponderous pens upon the captivating subject of Mother Goose, and suggestions of her can be found in the Dutch.

#### And Other Unwieldy Languages.

There is one personage in "Mother Goose" who can be easily traced, and that is Jack Spratt, of fat-antipathy fame. A little jogging of the memory will call him to mind as a Scandinavian dwarf who afterwards signalized himself in company with the Knights of the Round Table. His grave is in Lincoln cathedral, and up to a few years ago it was marked by blue stone in the pavement over his crypt.

It seems unnecessary to draw further from the inexhaustible well of lingual approximations to the English Mother Goose. Enough has been offered to show the universality of her habitat as she is known today.

As Mother Goose was never an individual whence came the appellation? The general idea that "goose" is synonymous with all that is absurd and foolish is the result of hasty conclusion.

Its claim to be ranked with words meaning knowledge, intelligence and wisdom is too strong to be denied. Genseric, the great Vandal, gloried in the fact that the derivation of his name was from ganserica, a gander which, in company with all its tribe, was taken as a symbol and oracle of wisdom.

In the far night of time and at the cradle of the race in Farther Asia, the creator was imaged as a great white goose or swan, and the incomprehensible soul of the divinity was symbolized under the same form.

It may not be generally known, but the crusaders were told by Peter the Hermit that the Holy Ghost was with them in the form of a white gander, which latter was actually led at the head of the army!

The Egyptian god of time, Seb, carries a goose on his head. Pan, the great god of nature, was generally represented as being in the company of geese.

In Ceylon the goose is worshipped, and the Koscianians venerated it as a sacred emblem. Not a few stories enclosed within the covers of the modern Mother Goose can be traced back to their remote birthplace.

"The House that Jack Built," was once a Chaldean religious hymn.

"Little Bo-Peep" is older than the constellation of Bootes or Arcturus, which originally received its celest at placing in consequence of the story, whose real meaning has disappeared in the mists of ages.

Ursa Major and Ursa Minor were originally included in one constellation called Arctos, which meant a sheepfold, and Bootes, the so-called ploughman, means a shepherd.

To end the matter, though, Mother Goose has been short of materiality. She has been shown in her otherness to be a very material, whose home was, as some must

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the 1990s, the number of people in the world who are undernourished has increased from 600 million to 800 million. The number of people who are malnourished has increased from 1.2 billion to 1.6 billion. The number of people who are obese has increased from 100 million to 300 million.

The World Bank has estimated that the cost of malnutrition to the world economy is \$1.2 trillion per year. This is equivalent to the cost of the world's military expenditure. The World Bank has also estimated that the cost of obesity to the world economy is \$1.2 trillion per year. This is equivalent to the cost of the world's military expenditure.

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